

AL11575
C2

ALBERTA PROFILE

Social and Health Indicators of Addiction



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016

<https://archive.org/details/albertaprofiles02006albe>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ALBERTA PROFILE

Social and Health Indicators of Addiction

Seventh Edition

Prepared by:
AADAC Policy & Business Planning
Sandy Goatcher

November, 2006

ALBERTA PROFILE

Indicators of Addiction Social and Health

Alberta Health Services

Alberta Health Services

Alberta Health Services

Alberta Health Services

Alberta Health Services

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	vii
INTRODUCTION	1
Background	1
Content	1
Format	2
Limitations	2
AADAC HIGHLIGHTS	3
AADAC SERVICE AREA MAP	4
RHA HIGHLIGHTS	5
RHA SERVICE AREA MAP	6
1-ALCOHOL	7
Alcohol Indicators	12
Dollar sales and volume of alcohol beverages sold. Density of liquor licences (on- and off-premise sales) (tables 1-4)	12
Alcohol-related criminal offences (tables 5-8)	17
Alcohol-related traffic collisions (tables 9-10)	21
Alcohol-related diseases (tables 11-14)	24
Alcohol-related deaths (tables 15-16)	29
Alcohol-related 1-866 help line calls (tables 17-18)	32
2-ILLICIT DRUGS	37
Illicit Drug Indicators	40
Drug-related criminal offences (tables 19-20)	40
Drug-related diseases (tables 21-22)	43
Drug-related deaths (tables 23-24)	47
Drug-related 1-866 help line calls (tables 25-26)	50
3-MEDICATIONS	55
Medication Indicators	57
Triplicate prescription program (tables 27-28)	57
4-GAMBLING	61
Gambling Indicators	64
Gambling-related expenditures (tables 29-34)	64
Gambling-related 1-866 help line calls (tables 35-36)	70

5–TOBACCO.....	75
Tobacco Indicators	77
Tobacco-related diseases (tables 37-42).....	77
Tobacco-related deaths (tables 43-44)	84
Tobacco-related 1-866 Help Line calls (tables 45-46).....	87
APPENDIX 1	91
Glossary of Terms	91
APPENDIX 2	93
Admissions to AADAC.....	93
Admissions to AADAC (tables 2.1-2.2)	93
APPENDIX 3	97
Population and Other Demographic Indicators Presented by AADAC Service Areas.....	97
AADAC service area (tables 3.1-3.7).....	97
Students who have dropped out (table 3.6).....	104
APPENDIX 4	109
Population and Other Demographic Indicators Presented by Regional Health Authority.....	109
Regional Health Authority (RHA) (tables 4.1-4.7).....	109
Students who have dropped out (table 4.6).....	114
APPENDIX 5	119
Summary of Indicators Alcohol, Other Drugs and Gambling	119
AADAC service areas (tables 5.1-5.5) Regional Health Authorities (tables 5.6-6.0).....	119

TABLE OF TABLES

TABLE 1:	Dollar sales and volume of alcoholic beverages sold by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (per person aged 15 and older)	14
TABLE 2:	On- and off-sale liquor licences by AADAC service area, as of January 17, 2006 (rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)	15
TABLE 3	Dollar sales and volume of alcoholic beverages sold by regional health authority, 2004/05 (per person aged 15 and older)	16
TABLE 4:	On- and off-sale liquor licences by regional health authority as of January 17, 2006 (rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)	16
TABLE 5:	Reported offences: impaired driving and failure/refusal to provide a breath sample by AADAC service area, 2004 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	18
TABLE 6:	Reported offences: disturbing the peace, non-sexual and sexual assault by AADAC service area, 2004 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)	19
TABLE 7:	Reported offences: impaired driving and failure/refusal to provide a breath sample by regional health authority, 2004 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	20
TABLE 8:	Reported offences: disturbing the peace, non-sexual and sexual assault by regional health authority, 2004 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)	20
TABLE 9:	Injury and fatality collisions involving drivers who have consumed alcohol or were impaired by AADAC service area, 2004 (Rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	22
TABLE 10	Injury and fatality collisions involving drivers who have consumed alcohol or were impaired by Regional health authority, 2004 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	23
TABLE 11:	Alcohol-related hospital separations by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)	26
TABLE 12:	Hospital separations for alcohol-related liver diseases and other diagnoses by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)	27
TABLE 13:	Alcohol-related hospital separations by regional health authority, 2004/05 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)	28
TABLE 14:	Hospital separations for alcohol-related liver diseases and other diagnoses by regional health authority, 2004/05 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)	28
TABLE 15:	Alcohol-related deaths by AADAC service area, 2004 (rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)	30
TABLE 16:	Alcohol-related deaths by regional health authority, 2004 (rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)	31
TABLE 17:	Alcohol-related 1-866 help line calls by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	33
TABLE 18:	Alcohol-related 1-866 help line calls by regional health authority, 2004/05 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	34

TABLE 19:	Reported offences: Cannabis and other illicit drugs by AADAC service area, 2004 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	41
TABLE 20:	Reported offences: Cannabis and other illicit drugs by Regional health authority, 2004 (Rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	42
TABLE 21:	Drug-related hospital separations by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	45
TABLE 22:	Drug-related hospital separations by regional health authority, 2004/05 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	46
TABLE 23:	Drug-related deaths by AADAC service area, 2004 (rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)	48
TABLE 24:	Drug-related deaths by regional health authority, 2004 (rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)	49
TABLE 25:	Drug-related 1-866 Help Line calls by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	51
TABLE 26:	Drug-related 1-866 Help Line calls by regional health authority, 2004/05 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	52
TABLE 27:	Prescriptions dispensed and monitored by the Triplicate Prescription Program by AADAC service area, 2005 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	58
TABLE 28:	Prescriptions dispensed and monitored by the Triplicate Prescription Program by regional health authority, 2005 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	59
TABLE 29:	Charity gaming: bingo, raffles and pull-tickets by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (net sales per person aged 15 years and older)	65
TABLE 30:	Lottery tickets by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (net sales per person aged 18 and older)	66
TABLE 31:	Video lottery terminals (VLTs) by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (net sales per persons aged 18 years and older)	67
TABLE 32:	Charity gaming: bingo, raffles and pull-tickets by regional health authority, 2004/05 (net sales per person aged 15 years and older)	68
TABLE 33:	Lottery tickets by regional health authority, 2004/05 (net sales per person aged 18 and older)	68
TABLE 34:	Video lottery terminals (VLTs) by regional health authority, 2004/05 (net sales per person aged 18 years and older)	69
TABLE 35:	Gambling-related 1-866 Help Line calls by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	71
TABLE 36:	Gambling-related 1-866 Help Line calls by regional health authority, 2004/05 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	72
TABLE 37:	Major cause: Tobacco-related hospital separations by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)	79
TABLE 38:	Contributing cause: Tobacco-related hospital separations by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)	80

TABLE 39:	Major risk factor: Tobacco-related hospital separations by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)	81
TABLE 40:	Major cause: Tobacco-related hospital separations by regional health authority, 2004/05 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)	82
TABLE 41:	Contributing cause: Tobacco-related hospital separations by regional health authority, 2004/05 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)	82
TABLE 42:	Major risk factor: Tobacco-related hospital separations by regional health authority, 2004/05 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)	83
TABLE 43:	Tobacco-related deaths by AADAC service area, 2004 (rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)	85
TABLE 44:	Tobacco-related deaths by regional health authority, 2004 (rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)	86
TABLE 45:	Tobacco-related 1-866 Help Line calls by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	88
TABLE 46:	Tobacco-related 1-866 Help Line calls by regional health authority, 2004/05 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)	89
TABLE 2.1:	Admissions to AADAC by AADAC service area, 2005/06 (rate per thousand population)	94
TABLE 2.2:	Admissions to AADAC by regional health authority, 2005/06 (rate per thousand population)	95
TABLE 3.1:	Population age groups by AADAC service area, 2001	99
TABLE 3.2:	Average household income, incidence of low income and unemployment rate by AADAC service area, 2001	100
TABLE 3.3:	Highest level of education by AADAC service area, 2001	101
TABLE 3.4:	Family structure by AADAC service area, 2001	102
TABLE 3.5:	Proportion of immigrant, visible minority and Aboriginal people by AADAC service area, 2001	103
TABLE 3.6:	Students who have dropped out by AADAC service area, 2005 (rate per thousand population aged 14–18 years)	105
TABLE 3.7:	Population of Alberta cities, towns and villages by AADAC service area	106
TABLE 4.1:	Population age groups by RHA, 2001	111
TABLE 4.2:	Average household income, incidence of low income and unemployment rate by RHA, 2001	111
TABLE 4.3:	Highest level of education by RHA, 2001	112
TABLE 4.4:	Family structure by RHA, 2001	112
TABLE 4.5:	Proportion of immigrant, visible minority and Aboriginal people by RHA, 2001	113
TABLE 4.6:	Students who have dropped out by RHA, 2005 (rate per thousand population aged 14–18 years)	115
TABLE 4.7:	Population of Alberta cities, towns and villages by RHA	116

TABLE 5.1:	Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by AADAC service area (rank: 1=highest to 28=lowest)	120
TABLE 5.2	Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by AADAC service area (rank: 1=highest to 28=lowest)	121
TABLE 5.3:	Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by AADAC service area (rank: 1=highest to 28=lowest)	122
TABLE 5.4:	Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by AADAC service area (rank: 1=highest to 28=lowest)	123
TABLE 5.5:	Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by AADAC service area (rank: 1=highest to 28=lowest)	124
TABLE 5.6	Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by RHA (rank: 1=highest to 9=lowest)	125
TABLE 5.7:	Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by RHA (rank: 1=highest to 9=lowest)	125
TABLE 5.8:	Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by RHA (rank: 1=highest to 9=lowest)	126
TABLE 5.9:	Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by RHA (rank: 1 = highest to 9 = lowest)	126
TABLE 6.0:	Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by RHA (rank: 1=highest to 9=lowest)	127

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author would like to acknowledge the support of staff from AADAC's Information Services Branch, as well as the assistance of the following individuals and the organizations they represent:

<i>Paul Arnold-Schutta</i>	Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission, for providing alcohol and gaming data
<i>Kim Borden</i>	Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, for investigations of deaths related to alcohol or other drugs
<i>Maureen Brown</i>	Alberta Education, for providing school dropout data
<i>Todd Chorney</i>	Alberta Finance, for providing AADAC population data by town and postal code aggregations
<i>Michael Edwards and Judy Traill</i>	Alberta Government Services, for providing mortality data related to alcohol, tobacco and other drugs
<i>Trina Hughes</i>	Capital Health Link, for providing Help Line data
<i>Bruce Meyers</i>	Statistics Canada, for providing AADAC and RHA population and demographic data
<i>Kathy Murphy</i>	Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation, for providing motor licence suspension data
<i>Sambhu Nath</i>	Alberta Health and Wellness, for providing alcohol-, tobacco- and drug-related morbidity data
<i>Tara Peters</i>	Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation, for providing motor vehicle collision data
<i>Sharon Wilson</i>	Alberta Community Council on HIV, for providing needle-exchange program data
<i>Wayne Wilson</i>	Solicitor General and Public Security, for providing data on alcohol- and drug-related criminal offences
<i>Janet Wright</i>	College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta, for providing Triplicate Prescription Program data

INTRODUCTION

Background

Accurate, timely and multifaceted information on the nature, extent and impacts of substance use and gambling is essential to understanding addiction. It is also a prerequisite to the development of effective policies and programs. Population surveys are valuable in determining the size of the *using* population, but are limited in their ability to measure *abuse*. Social and health indicators such as treatment admissions, substance-related deaths and criminal offences are needed to better assess the overall harm caused by substance use and gambling in the community—even if these indicators are not always available or consistent. Taken together, prevalence data and specific indicators complement each other, and contribute to the knowledge of substance abuse and problem gambling at the local level and across the province.^a

This report provides a compilation of data from secondary sources that profile select indicators of alcohol, other drugs and gambling in Alberta. The purpose of the report is to present information in a ready-to-use format, as an internal planning tool for AADAC staff and as a public information source. This edition is an update of reports produced in 1987, 1990, 1992, 1996, 1999 and 2003. In 1999, the report was renamed the *Alberta Profile: Social and Health Indicators of Addiction*, formerly the *AADAC Social and Health Indicators Profile (SHIP)*.

For this edition, information has been expanded to include rates for alcohol-, drug- and tobacco-related provincial Help Line calls, on-premise licences for the sale of liquor, and high-school dropout rates.

Content

The content of this report has evolved over time with new indicators being added as available. In particular, the fourth edition (1996) saw the inclusion of data for regional health authorities (RHA), reflecting the current framework of collaborative health and social service program delivery. The fifth edition (1999) incorporated information on gambling and the scope of the report was broadened to include provincial-level data on the prevalence, costs and consequences of addiction.

For this edition there have been some important changes in the data aggregated from secondary sources. For instance, ICD-10 codes are now used for substance-related hospital separations (formerly ICD-9) and this has altered the groupings within indicator categories.

^a C. Poulin, (1997). *Canadian Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Use (CCENDU). Inaugural national report*. Ottawa, ON: Health Canada.

Such changes in data can produce substantial variation in rates. **Therefore, it is recommended that no comparisons from previous reports to this edition be made.**

Format

All of the data presented are standardized as per capita rates or percentages and are ranked from high to low for comparison across AADAC Service Areas and RHAs. Presentation of standardized rates is important to allow for meaningful comparisons over time, although definitive conclusions about area differences are not possible.

Where provincial rates or percentages are presented, these are calculated by dividing the total occurrence of the select indicator by the total population or relevant age group of interest.

This is not an average, and the provincial rate may vary substantially from individual service area or RHA rates.

For the 28 AADAC Service Areas and 9 RHAs, a rank of 1 indicates that the rate was highest among all areas, while a rank of 9 or 28 indicates the lowest calculated rate. Where necessary, rankings have been adjusted to accommodate areas with the same rate, thus maintaining a uniform range.

The report is organized into five sections: alcohol, illicit drugs, medications, gambling and tobacco. Report highlights are presented as part of the introduction, and indicator-specific highlights accompany the tables and figures in each section. A glossary of terms is included in Appendix 1 and summary of indicators is presented in Appendix 5.

Limitations

The tables in this report were produced from unrelated secondary data sources that are administrative in nature and not research oriented. The data systems were established for different purposes, cover different time periods and reference different age groups. As a result, the reader is advised to consider each indicator separately.

Demographic information is from the 2001 census and, as a result, demographic information for AADAC service areas has not changed since the last version. Demographics have been recalculated to the current nine RHAs.

Little interpretation of the rankings between AADAC service areas and RHAs on a given indicator is offered. This is because many variables interact to affect the rate shown, and there is a strong necessity to interpret the information within a local context. Areas vary considerably in their demographic and economic characteristics, and communities also differ in other ways. For instance, in communities where impaired driving is a priority, more police resources might be targeted to this problem, ultimately affecting the impaired driving rate. Other important limitations are listed with each table or figure and should be kept in mind when considering the data.

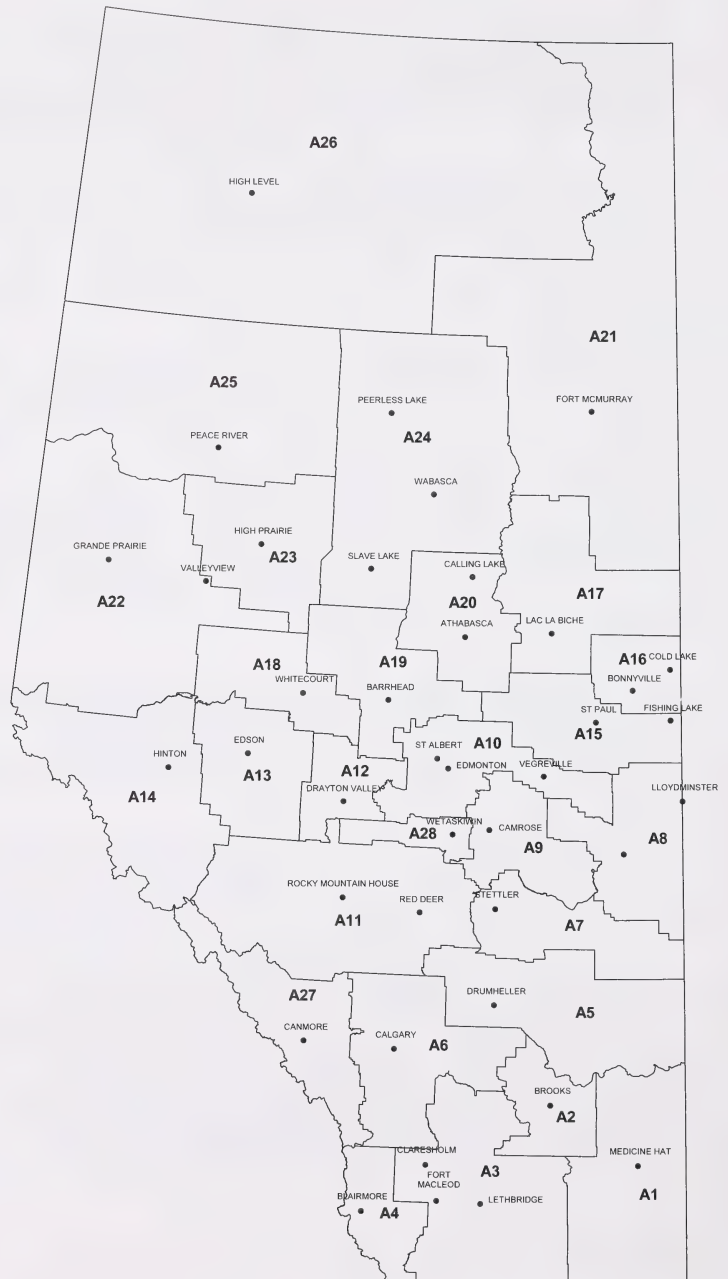
AADAC HIGHLIGHTS

- Per capita alcohol sales varied somewhat throughout the province with the Canmore service area showing the highest sales.
- The rate for on- and off-premise liquor sales licences was highest in the Canmore service area.
- The rate of alcohol-related criminal offences varied substantially across the province.
- High Prairie service area had the highest rate of alcohol-related injury and fatality traffic collisions.
- The hospital separation rate for alcohol-related diagnoses was highest in the High Level service area.
- Wetaskiwin service area had an alcohol-related death rate at almost twice the provincial rate.
- The rate of drug-related offences was highest in the Athabasca service area (more than four times the provincial rate).
- The hospital separation rate for drug-related diagnoses was highest in the Slave Lake service area.
- There were no recorded drug-related deaths in Athabasca, Peace River and Slave Lake service areas.
- The rate of drug prescriptions filled, as monitored by the Triplicate Prescription Program, was highest in the Crowsnest Pass service area.
- Per person expenditures on charity gaming (bingo, raffles and pull tickets) varied substantially across the province.
- Lottery expenditures were highest in the Fort McMurray service area.
- Video lottery terminal (VLT) expenditures were highest in the Whitecourt service area.
- The rate of alcohol-, other drug- and gambling-related calls to the 1-866 AADAC Help Line varied across the province.
- The tobacco-related hospital separation rate fluctuated throughout the province.
- The tobacco-related death rate was lowest in the Fort McMurray service area.
- Client admissions to AADAC facilities for alcohol, other drugs, and/or gambling were lowest for clients residing in the Wainwright service area.

AADAC SERVICE AREA MAP

Code Name

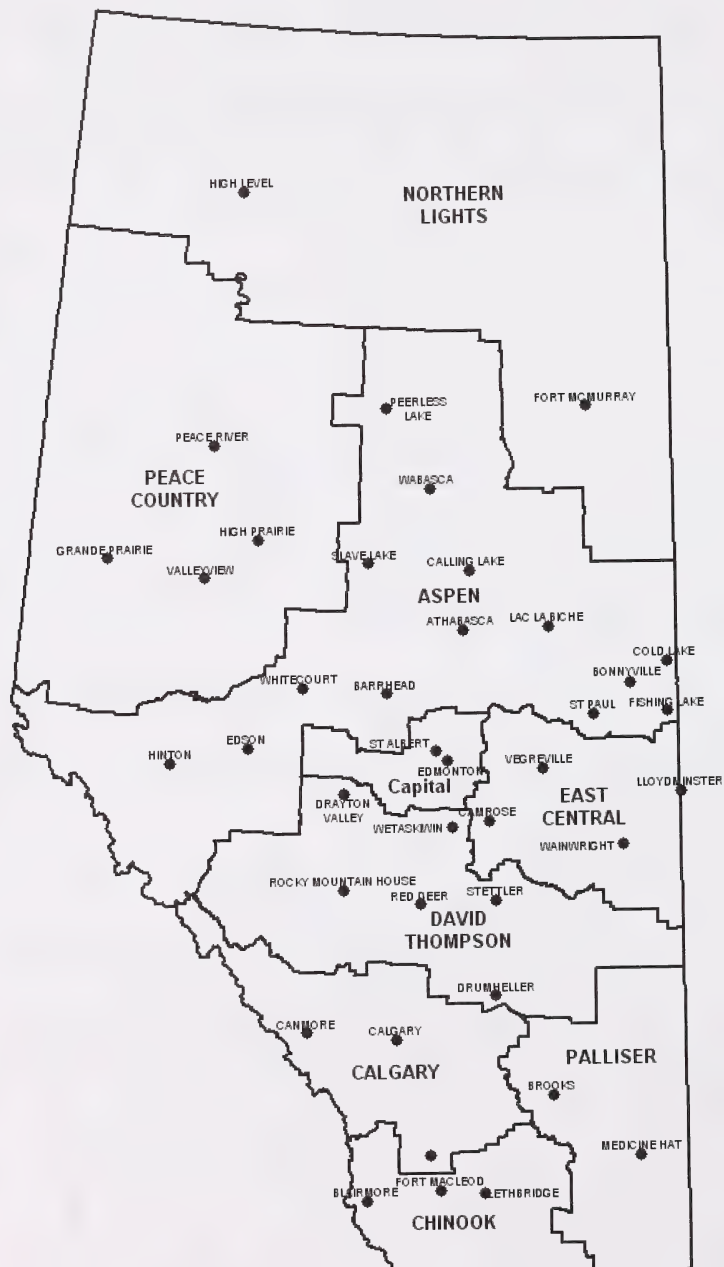
- A1 Medicine Hat
- A2 Brooks
- A3 Lethbridge
- A4 Crowsnest Pass
- A5 Drumheller
- A6 Calgary
- A7 Stettler
- A8 Wainwright
- A9 Camrose
- A10 Edmonton
- A11 Red Deer
- A12 Drayton Valley
- A13 Edson
- A14 Hinton
- A15 St. Paul
- A16 Cold Lake
- A17 Lac La Biche
- A18 Whitecourt
- A19 Barrhead
- A20 Athabasca
- A21 Fort McMurray
- A22 Grande Prairie
- A23 High Prairie
- A24 Slave Lake
- A25 Peace River
- A26 High Level
- A27 Canmore
- A28 Wetaskiwin



RHA HIGHLIGHTS

- Per capita alcohol sales varied somewhat throughout the province with Northern Lights showing the highest sales.
- The rate for on- and off-premise liquor sales licences was highest in the Aspen RHA.
- The occurrence rates for alcohol-related criminal offences, including impaired driving, was lowest in the Capital RHA.
- The rate of alcohol-involved injury and fatality collisions was highest in the Palliser RHA.
- The hospital separation rate for alcohol-related diagnoses was highest in the Northern Lights RHA.
- Northern Lights RHA had the lowest alcohol-related death rate.
- The rate for drug-related offences was highest in the Northern Lights RHA.
- The hospital separation rate for drug-related diagnoses varied across RHAs.
- Drug-related deaths were fairly uniform across RHAs.
- The rate of monitored prescriptions dispensed was highest in the Chinook RHA.
- Per person expenditures on charity gaming (bingos, raffles and pull tickets) varied throughout the province.
- The expenditure rate for lotteries was highest in the Northern Lights RHA.
- VLT expenditures were highest in the Aspen RHA.
- The rate of alcohol-, other drug- and gambling-related calls to the 1-866 AADAC Help Line varied across RHAs.
- The hospital separation rate for diagnoses in which tobacco was the major or contributing cause was highest in the Peace Country RHA.
- The hospital separation rate for diagnoses in which tobacco was a major risk factor was lowest in the Northern Lights RHA.
- The tobacco-related death rate was lowest in the Northern Lights RHA.
- Client admissions to AADAC facilities were highest for clients residing in the Peace Country RHA.

RHA SERVICE AREA MAP



1-ALCOHOL

Alcohol is used by the majority of Albertans, and is responsible for more health, safety and legal consequences than other drugs noted in this report. At the same time, many Albertans benefit from the manufacture, sale and use of alcohol. Alcohol sales also contribute to the provincial economy.

Distribution and Revenue

- During 2005/06, the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) issued 8,198 licenses for on- and off-premise alcohol sales.¹
- As of March 31, 2006, 1,121 retail liquor outlets existed in Alberta.²
- Government revenue from alcohol sales totaled \$603 million in 2005/06.²

Prevalence

- In 2004, 79.5% of Albertans over the age of 15 were current drinkers* compared to 79.3% of Canadians.³
- The proportion of heavy drinkers in Alberta is slightly higher than in the rest of Canada (21.0% versus 20.2%). Heavy drinking is defined as consuming five or more drinks on a single occasion for men and four or more drinks on a single occasion for women, at least once a month.³
- Alberta males are more likely to drink than Alberta females (82.4% versus 76.7%) and they are much more likely to be heavy drinkers (32.6% versus 20.1%).⁴
- Alcohol is also the drug most commonly used by Alberta youth. Among students in grades 7 to 12 surveyed in 2005,** 63.4% reported alcohol use in the previous 12 months. The prevalence of past-year alcohol use increases with age: 19.1% of students in Grade 7 reported using alcohol compared to 86.0% in Grade 12.⁵
- Alcohol consumption during pregnancy was reported by 3.7% (preliminary data) of women who gave birth in Alberta during 2004.⁶

Consumption

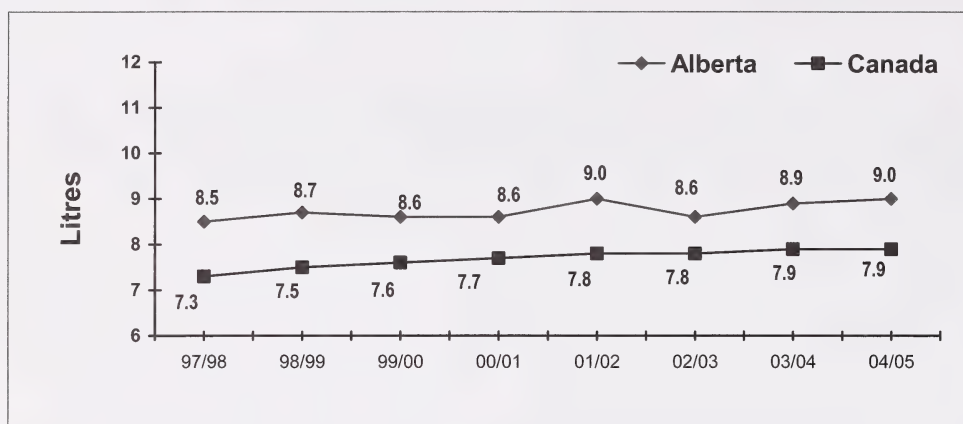
- From 1997/98 to 2004/05, per capita consumption of absolute (pure) alcohol by Albertans (aged 15 years and over) increased from 8.5 litres to 9.0 litres (see Figure 1).⁷ Per capita consumption in 2004/05 is equivalent to approximately 520 bottles of “regular” strength beer per person, per year.^{***}

* Current drinkers are respondents that reported the use of alcohol during the year prior to the survey.

** Note: Information presented may not be representative of Alberta students as no students in Calgary and a limited number of high school students in Edmonton were included in the sample because of access restrictions.

***The Canadian Guidelines on Low-Risk Drinking define a standard drink as one 341-ml (12-oz.) “regular” strength bottle of beer (5% alcohol), one 142-ml (5-oz.) glass of table wine (12% alcohol), one 43-ml (1.5-oz.) serving of spirits (40% alcohol), or one 85-ml (3-oz.) serving of fortified wine such as sherry or port (18% alcohol).⁸

FIGURE 1: Per capita consumption of absolute alcohol in Alberta, ages 15+(1997/98 to 2003/04)



- On average, Albertans drink more than the national average. The national per capita consumption* level was 7.9 litres of absolute alcohol in 2004/05. Only the Yukon had a higher per capita consumption of alcohol (13.0 litres) than Alberta.⁷
- In 2004, 7.9% of Albertans (aged 15 and over) reported producing their own beer or wine in the past year and on average each produced between 16 and 110 bottles of beer and/or between 52 and 122 bottles of wine.⁴

Consequences

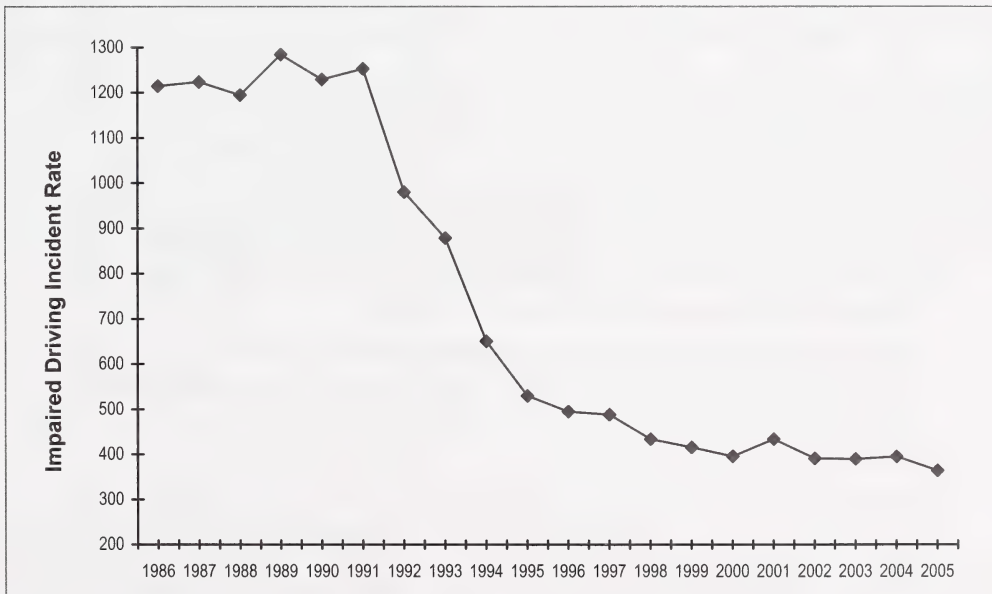
Alcohol has broad impact across society, affecting personal well-being, individual and family relationships, workplace productivity and community safety. Alcohol consumption is implicated in health problems, domestic violence, injuries, property damage, criminal behaviour and death.

- Among adult Albertans (15 years and older) surveyed in 2004, 19.1% were assessed as having harmful drinking patterns or potential alcohol dependence.⁴
- In 2004, of Alberta youth aged 15 to 17 years who reported drinking in the past year, 38.2% engaged in harmful drinking. Harmful drinking is defined as meeting eight or more Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) criteria.⁴
- Almost one in 10 current drinkers in Alberta (9.5%) experienced one or more types of harm related to their own use of alcohol in the past year, which is slightly higher than the national proportion (8.5%). Most commonly reported were impacts on physical health and on friendships or social life.⁴
- Thirty-eight per cent of Albertans report that they have experienced harm because of someone else's drinking, including verbal abuse, physical abuse, and marriage and family problems.⁴

* Per capita consumption rates are based on the litres of alcohol sold. This measure excludes other sources of alcohol such as beer and wine made at home.

- In 2005, 33.2% of Alberta students (grades 7 to 12) engaged in hazardous or harmful alcohol use.** The prevalence of abuse was similar for males (33.5%) and females (32.9%) and higher for older students (Grades 7-9, 18.3%; Grades 10-12, 37.4%).⁵
- It is estimated that in 2002, Alberta workers missed 27 million working hours because of the effects of alcohol use.⁹
- Alcohol use at work was reported by 11% of Alberta employees in 2002.⁹
- In 2004, 5% of Alberta drivers involved in injury collisions and 19% involved in fatal collisions had consumed alcohol prior to the accident.¹⁰
- In 2005, there were 11,869 impaired driving incidents reported in Alberta, a rate of 364 impaired driving incidents per 100,000 population. This was higher than the Canadian rate of 234 and was the sixth highest behind Yukon (1,013), Northwest Territories (1,056), Saskatchewan (520), Nunavut (480) and Prince Edward Island (399). Impaired driving incidents in Alberta show a consistent decline for more than 20 years (see Figure 2).¹¹

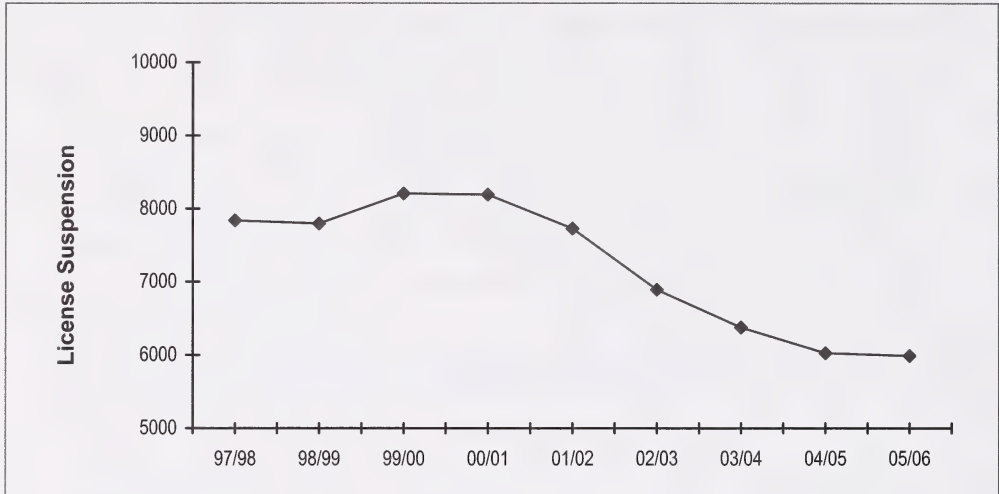
FIGURE 2: Impaired driving incidents in Alberta, 1986 to 2005 (rate per 100,000 population)



** Hazardous or harmful drinking is defined as meeting eight or more Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) criteria.
 Note: Information presented may not be representative of Alberta students as no students in Calgary and a limited number of high school students in Edmonton were included in the sample because of access restrictions.

- After remaining relatively constant for five years, the number of licence suspensions issued for an impaired driving conviction in Alberta declined 23%, from 7,726 in 2001/02 to 5,988 in 2005/06 (see Figure 3).¹²

FIGURE 3: License suspension for impaired driving in Alberta (1997/98 to 2005/06)



- In 2005/06, there were 434 zero alcohol tolerance suspensions for drivers licensed under the Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) program, almost twice the suspensions (226) from the previous year.¹² The Alberta Zero Alcohol Tolerance Program came into effect in May 2003. Under the program new drivers licensed under the GDL program, regardless of age, must have a zero blood alcohol level when driving or they will automatically receive a one-month license suspension.¹³
- The provincial Office of the Chief Medical Officer investigated 3,391 deaths in 2005. Toxicology screens* indicated 850 (25%) of the investigations involved alcohol, other drugs or both. Of the deaths involving alcohol and other drugs, 9% listed alcohol and 6% alcohol and other drugs as part of the primary medical cause of death.¹⁴
- Data from the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics indicate that between 1995 and 2004, the majority of persons accused of committing spousal homicide (62%) or non-spousal homicide (65%) had consumed alcohol and/or other drugs at the time of the incident. For this same time period, the spousal homicide rate** for Alberta was 6.1 as compared to 4.8 for Canada.¹⁵
- During 2005/06, 419 liquor licensees were issued a penalty as a result of liquor-related infractions. These included illegal alcohol sales, service to minors, failure to request

* Toxicology screens are conducted at the discretion of the Office of the Chief Medical Officer and therefore are not a routine component of an investigation.

** Rate per 1,000,000 legally married, common-law, separated and divorced spouses, 15 years of age and older, based on estimates provided by Demography Division, Statistics Canada.¹⁵

proof of age for patrons who appear to be under age 25, and serving liquor to intoxicated persons and after-hours.¹

- In 2005/06, 35,030 clients received service as part of AADAC treatment services. Of these, 28% reported concerns related to alcohol alone and another 26% came for concerns related to alcohol combined with other drugs, tobacco and/or gambling.¹⁶

Costs

The social costs of substance abuse in Canada in 2002 were almost \$40 billion. However, beyond the dollar figure it is also important to consider the number of deaths, years of productive life lost, and days spent in the hospital as a result of substance abuse.

- The cost of alcohol use in Alberta was estimated at \$1.6 billion in 2002; an amount equal to \$527 per Albertan. Productivity losses (\$855 million), health care (\$407 million) and law enforcement (\$275 million) accounted for the majority of total cost.¹⁷

Attitudes and Opinions

The Canadian Addiction Survey 2004 included questions to measure public opinion regarding existing and potential addiction policies and to identify emerging policy issues.

- Most of adult Albertans (15 years and older) perceived alcohol abuse to be a somewhat serious or very serious problem in Alberta (86%) with fewer (78%) holding this perception about their community.
- The majority of Albertans supported alcohol policies such as conducting random police checks for drinking and driving (97%), increasing efforts to prevent intoxicated customers from being served (75%) and maintaining alcohol taxes at the current level (61%).
- About half of Albertans thought the legal drinking age of 18 should stay the same (49%) while the other half thought it should be raised (46%).⁴

Alcohol Indicators

DOLLAR SALES AND VOLUME OF ALCOHOL BEVERAGES SOLD DENSITY OF LIQUOR LICENCES (ON- AND OFF-PREMISE SALES) (TABLES 1– 4)

Source

Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC)

Dollar sales and volume are reported for the 2004/05 fiscal year.

Liquor licences for on- and off-premise sales are reported for licences issued as of January 17, 2006.

Notes:

- In some areas of the province (e.g., Banff, Canmore, Jasper), alcohol sales are influenced by tourism and this will skew the figures upward in terms of volume sold and wholesale value.
- Volume sales data is not the same as total alcohol consumption. They refer to alcohol sold by AGLC licencees. Total alcohol consumption would include homemade wine and beer, sales in duty-free shops and any other unrecorded transactions.¹⁸
- Density of liquor licences is reported for on-premise and off-premise sales. Licences for on-premise sales are for the consumption of liquor in premises open to the public, including premises where minors are allowed. Examples include dining rooms, lounges, taverns and nightclubs. Off-premise licences are for the sale of liquor specified on the licence for off-premise consumption. Examples include retail liquor stores, wine stores, and hotel off-sales.
- As of January 17, 2006, approximately 64% of licences currently issued were on-premise and 27% were off-premise; minors were prohibited in 33% of establishments that had on-premise licences.
- The volume of beer, wine and spirits sold in Alberta totaled 2.9 million hectolitres (1 hectolitre = 100 litres) in 2004/05, with a wholesale value of about 1.5 billion dollars (excluding out of province sales).

AADAC Highlights:

- The Canmore and Hinton service areas had the highest alcohol sales per person and Crowsnest Pass the lowest. The tourism areas of Kananaskis, Banff and Jasper likely influence retail sales in both Canmore and Hinton.
- The total rate of licences for on- and off-premise liquor sales was highest in the Canmore service area and lowest in Edmonton.

RHA Highlights:

- Per capita alcohol sales varied somewhat throughout the province, with Northern Lights RHA recording the highest sales and Chinook the lowest.
- Aspen RHA had the highest concentration of licences for on- and off-premise liquor sales by population and Capital RHA the lowest.

TABLE 1: Dollar sales and volume of alcoholic beverages sold* by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (per person aged 15 and older)

	VOLUME (HECTOLITRES)	SALES (\$ WHOLESALE)	RANK (SALES ONLY)
Athabasca	1.15	582.90	17
Barrhead	0.92	448.22	26
Brooks	1.45	694.73	10
Calgary	1.20	653.59	12
Camrose	0.98	493.11	24
Canmore	2.84	1612.26	1
Cold Lake	1.44	698.07	9
Crowsnest Pass	0.71	346.36	28
Drayton Valley	0.88	424.88	27
Drumheller	1.33	643.23	14
Edmonton	1.22	651.61	13
Edson	1.43	707.51	8
Fort McMurray	2.18	1094.82	3
Grande Prairie	1.53	794.82	5
High Level	1.20	616.50	15
High Prairie	1.09	490.36	25
Hinton	2.50	1309.93	2
Lac La Biche	1.21	570.63	18
Lethbridge	1.05	494.86	23
Medicine Hat	1.35	670.37	11
Peace River	1.09	567.01	19
Red Deer	1.21	611.26	16
Slave Lake	1.50	730.05	7
St. Paul	1.07	532.03	22
Stettler	1.02	535.69	20
Wainwright	1.65	830.42	4
Wetaskiwin	1.20	533.59	21
Whitecourt	1.51	749.75	6
Province	1.24	654.58	

* Excludes out of province sales

TABLE 2: On- and off-sale liquor licences by AADAC service area, as of January 17, 2006
(rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)

	ON-PREMISE LICENCE RATE	OFF-PREMISE LICENCE RATE	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	1.93	1.84	3.77	7
Barrhead	1.62	1.29	2.90	18
Brooks	2.44	1.19	3.64	10
Calgary	1.63	0.51	2.14	26
Camrose	1.99	1.46	3.46	11
Canmore	7.11	2.10	9.21	1
Cold Lake	2.01	1.05	3.06	15
Crowsnest Pass	3.65	2.08	5.73	3
Drayton Valley	1.56	1.31	2.87	19
Drumheller	2.91	1.65	4.56	4
Edmonton	1.55	0.50	2.06	28
Edson	2.23	1.21	3.45	12
Fort McMurray	1.89	0.89	2.78	21
Grande Prairie	1.67	1.26	2.93	17
High Level	1.58	1.42	3.00	16
High Prairie	1.33	1.49	2.82	20
Hinton	6.25	1.74	7.99	2
Lac La Biche	1.04	1.04	2.08	27
Lethbridge	1.54	0.70	2.24	25
Medicine Hat	1.98	0.80	2.77	22
Peace River	1.80	1.32	3.12	14
Red Deer	1.72	0.92	2.64	23
Slave Lake	2.17	1.24	3.41	13
St. Paul	2.06	1.64	3.70	8
Stettler	2.68	1.69	4.38	5
Wainwright	2.22	1.46	3.67	9
Wetaskiwin	1.46	1.09	2.55	24
Whitecourt	2.45	1.73	4.18	6
Province	1.75	0.72	2.47	

TABLE 3 Dollar sales and volume of alcoholic beverages sold* by regional health authority, 2004/05 (per person aged 15 and older)

	VOLUME (HECTOLITRES)	SALES (\$ WHOLESALE)	RANK (SALES ONLY)
Aspen	1.42	700.91	3
Calgary	1.24	675.99	4
Capital	1.20	641.89	6
Chinook	1.03	485.72	9
David Thompson	1.22	603.09	8
East Central	1.24	619.96	7
Northern Lights	1.91	965.06	1
Palliser	1.36	669.10	5
Peace Country	1.38	701.74	2
Province	1.24	654.58	

* Excludes out of province sales

TABLE 4: On- and off-sale liquor licences by regional health authority as of January 17, 2006 (rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)

	ON-PREMISE LICENCE RATE	OFF-PREMISE LICENCE RATE	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Aspen	2.30	1.38	3.68	1
Calgary	1.78	0.56	2.34	8
Capital	1.54	0.50	2.04	9
Chinook	1.71	0.80	2.52	7
David Thompson	1.79	1.04	2.82	5
East Central	2.07	1.44	3.52	2
Northern Lights	1.79	1.01	2.80	6
Palliser	2.16	0.93	3.10	3
Peace Country	1.69	1.34	3.03	4
Province	1.75	0.72	2.47	

ALCOHOL-RELATED CRIMINAL OFFENCES (TABLES 5-8)

Source

Solicitor General and Public Security, Public Security Division for the 2004 calendar year

Notes:

- Impaired driving includes impaired operation of a motor vehicle, boat, vessel or aircraft.
- Data represent the actual offences or charges laid, as reported by RCMP and municipal police forces to Statistics Canada. These data may reflect variations in law enforcement practices and staffing within local communities. These limitations should be noted when comparing between the different AADAC service areas and regional health authorities.
- An offence refers to an unlawful act by an individual. Offences are categorized by type according to federal and provincial statutes. The data do not reflect the outcome of reported cases in regard to their disposition by the courts.
- With the exception of impaired driving, it is not known to what extent alcohol was involved in an offence. It is widely believed among police personnel that a large proportion of violent and property crime is associated with alcohol use, although establishing a causal relationship is very difficult. Offence rates likely underestimate the extent of alcohol involvement.¹⁹
- In 2004, there were 75,994 alcohol- or drug-related offences in Alberta. Fifteen percent (15%) were for impaired driving, 1% for refusal to provide a breath sample, 33% for disturbing the peace, 3% for sexual assault and 37% for non-sexual assault.

AADAC Highlights:

- The total rate for impaired driving and failure/refusal to provide a breath sample was highest in the Slave Lake service area and lowest in Edmonton.
- The total rate for disturbing the peace, non-sexual assault and sexual assault charges was also highest for the Slave Lake service area and lowest in the Medicine Hat service area.

RHA Highlights:

- The total rate for impaired driving and failure/refusal to provide a breath sample was highest in the Peace County RHA and lowest in Capital.
- The total rate for disturbing the peace, non-sexual assault and sexual assault charges were highest for Northern Lights RHA and lowest in Capital.

TABLE 5: Reported offences: impaired driving and failure/refusal to provide a breath sample by AADAC service area, 2004 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	IMPAIRED DRIVING	REFUSE BREATH SAMPLE	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	7.99	0.46	8.45	15
Barrhead	4.41	0.44	4.85	25
Brooks	7.56	0.91	8.47	14
Calgary	3.35	0.12	3.47	27
Camrose	6.07	0.31	6.39	20
Canmore	10.49	0.36	10.85	10
Cold Lake	8.79	0.57	9.36	13
Crowsnest Pass	13.21	0.25	13.46	5
Drayton Valley	5.53	0.17	5.70	22
Drumheller	5.01	0.13	5.14	24
Edmonton	3.21	0.11	3.32	28
Edson	7.73	0.65	8.38	16
Fort McMurray	9.34	0.34	9.68	12
Grande Prairie	17.69	0.52	18.21	2
High Level	9.33	1.33	10.66	11
High Prairie	12.69	0.58	13.27	7
Hinton	10.76	0.26	11.02	9
Lac La Biche	16.03	0.91	16.94	4
Lethbridge	6.61	0.30	6.91	18
Medicine Hat	5.01	0.15	5.16	23
Peace River	7.16	0.24	7.40	17
Red Deer	5.54	0.31	5.85	21
Slave Lake	19.97	1.76	21.73	1
St. Paul	16.82	0.80	17.62	3
Stettler	5.51	0.92	6.42	19
Wainwright	4.46	0.20	4.67	26
Wetaskiwin	11.57	0.36	11.94	8
Whitecourt	12.26	1.15	13.41	6
Province	4.92	0.22	5.14	

TABLE 6: Reported offences: disturbing the peace, non-sexual and sexual assault
by AADAC service area, 2004 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)

	DISTURBING THE PEACE	NON-SEXUAL ASSAULT	SEXUAL ASSAULT	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	21.50	15.25	1.38	38.13	18
Barrhead	9.60	9.52	1.62	20.74	20
Brooks	28.07	20.57	0.97	49.60	11
Calgary	2.54	9.07	0.74	12.35	26
Camrose	9.81	8.32	1.65	19.78	21
Canmore	40.57	19.49	2.00	62.06	9
Cold Lake	21.16	20.01	2.15	43.32	13
Crowsnest Pass	32.89	19.19	1.66	53.74	10
Drayton Valley	7.52	8.75	1.27	17.53	23
Drumheller	9.92	8.54	0.80	19.27	22
Edmonton	2.81	8.24	0.96	12.00	27
Edson	14.53	15.18	0.65	30.35	19
Fort McMurray	53.42	32.42	1.56	87.39	5
Grande Prairie	49.48	21.18	1.76	72.43	8
High Level	106.99	50.12	3.50	160.62	2
High Prairie	42.70	39.64	2.99	85.32	6
Hinton	25.69	15.63	1.65	42.97	14
Lac La Biche	89.77	40.78	2.21	132.77	3
Lethbridge	20.68	17.00	1.39	39.07	16
Medicine Hat	2.11	7.38	0.67	10.16	28
Peace River	25.04	17.00	1.32	43.35	12
Red Deer	23.49	14.32	1.02	38.83	17
Slave Lake	110.61	48.53	3.41	162.55	1
St. Paul	42.64	29.52	1.50	73.66	7
Stettler	7.48	6.92	0.71	15.11	24
Wainwright	6.68	7.32	0.70	14.70	25
Wetaskiwin	58.86	50.89	3.14	112.89	4
Whitecourt	22.78	18.31	1.80	42.90	15
Province	10.76	11.77	1.04	23.57	

TABLE 7: Reported offences: impaired driving and failure/refusal to provide a breath sample by regional health authority, 2004 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	IMPAIRED DRIVING	REFUSE BREATH SAMPLE	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Aspen	10.99	0.74	11.73	2
Calgary	3.60	0.13	3.73	8
Capital	3.11	0.10	3.22	9
Chinook	7.24	0.31	7.54	4
David Thompson	6.28	0.35	6.63	5
East Central	4.91	0.23	5.14	7
Northern Lights	9.36	0.60	9.96	3
Palliser	5.55	0.32	5.88	6
Peace Country	14.53	0.45	14.98	1
Province	4.92	0.22	5.14	

TABLE 8: Reported offences: disturbing the peace, non-sexual and sexual assault by regional health authority, 2004 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)

	DISTURBING THE PEACE	NON-SEXUAL ASSAULT	SEXUAL ASSAULT	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Aspen	34.02	21.90	1.80	57.71	3
Calgary	3.50	9.43	0.78	13.71	8
Capital	2.69	8.08	0.96	11.73	9
Chinook	23.07	17.86	1.47	42.40	4
David Thompson	23.60	16.79	1.22	41.62	5
East Central	7.01	7.45	1.01	15.47	7
Northern Lights	67.96	37.26	2.08	107.30	1
Palliser	8.45	10.42	0.73	19.60	6
Peace Country	42.20	22.42	1.83	66.45	2
Province	10.76	11.77	1.04	23.57	

ALCOHOL-RELATED TRAFFIC COLLISIONS (TABLES 9-10)

Source

Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation, Driver Safety and Research for the 2004 calendar year

Notes:

- Data represent the **number of motor vehicle collisions** in which persons were injured or killed as a result of the incident. **They do not represent the number of persons who sustained an injury or were killed.**
- Data represent single or multiple vehicle collisions and therefore may involve more than one driver under the influence of alcohol.
- Risk of traffic collisions varies greatly between service areas because of variation in such factors as accessibility to major highways, traffic density and driving patterns. For these reasons, caution is advised when comparing service areas.
- The alcohol-related traffic collision percentages for less populated service areas are not as reliable as those for the more populated service areas. Areas with smaller populations are more subject to chance variation in the number of collisions because generally there are fewer injury or fatality collisions.
- In 2004, there were 24,389 drivers (excluding bicyclists) involved in injury and fatality collisions in Alberta. Overall, 1,228 (5.0%) involved drivers who had been drinking or were impaired.

AADAC Highlights:

- The rate of injury and fatality collisions involving drivers who had consumed alcohol or were impaired was highest in the High Prairie service area and lowest in the Barrhead service area.

RHA Highlights:

- The rate of alcohol-involved injury and fatality collisions was highest in the Palliser RHA and lowest in the Capital RHA.

TABLE 9: Injury and fatality collisions involving drivers who have consumed alcohol or were impaired by AADAC service area, 2004 (Rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	% INJURY COLLISIONS	% FATALITY COLLISIONS	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	6.6%	22.2%	0.92	9
Barrhead	6.0	0.0	0.33	28
Brooks	8.5	15.4	1.19	5
Calgary	4.5	21.6	0.45	23
Camrose	5.2	25.0	0.44	24
Canmore	8.7	0.00	0.82	11
Cold Lake	5.6	20.0	0.57	19
Crowsnest Pass	12.5	37.5	1.41	2
Drayton Valley	6.5	10.0	0.51	21
Drumheller	9.1	33.3	0.85	10
Edmonton	2.0	11.3	0.40	27
Edson	7.7	33.3	0.93	8
Fort McMurray	3.4	0.0	0.46	22
Grande Prairie	4.0	25.0	0.69	16
High Level	12.4	33.3	1.08	7
High Prairie	17.1	42.9	1.74	1
Hinton	3.9	0.0	0.43	25
Lac La Biche	6.3	0.0	0.78	13
Lethbridge	5.3	14.8	0.54	20
Medicine Hat	4.8	25.0	0.76	14
Peace River	7.0	8.3	0.68	18
Red Deer	5.5	13.7	0.69	16
Slave Lake	10.9	20.0	1.24	4
St. Paul	1.5	50.0	1.36	3
Stettler	62.0	0.0	0.42	26
Wainwright	5.9	16.7	0.79	12
Wetaskiwin	9.0	0.0	0.73	15
Whitecourt	6.5	15.8	1.15	6
Province	3.8%	16.9%	0.52	

TABLE 10 Injury and fatality collisions involving drivers who have consumed alcohol or were impaired by Regional health authority, 2004 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	% INJURY COLLISIONS	% FATALITY COLLISIONS	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Aspen	7.2%	17.2%	0.77	3
Calgary	4.6	20.2	0.45	8
Capital	2.0	11.0	0.40	9
Chinook	5.6	20.6	0.61	6
David Thompson	6.0	13.8	0.71	4
East Central	6.1	21.7	0.59	7
Northern Lights	4.9	16.7	0.63	5
Palliser	6.2	20.0	0.88	1
Peace Country	5.7	24.4	0.87	2
Province	3.8%	16.9%	0.52	

ALCOHOL-RELATED DISEASES (TABLES 11-14)

Source

Alberta Health and Wellness, Strategic Directions Division, for the 2004/05 fiscal year

Notes:

- All diagnoses are based on the Canadian Coding Standards for International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD-10-CA).
- *Alcoholic psychosis* includes mental and behavioural disorders that are due to the use of alcohol that include withdrawal state, withdrawal state with delirium, psychotic disorders, amnesic syndrome, and other specified and unspecified mental and behavioural disorders.
- *Alcohol dependence* includes mental and behavioural disorders that are due to the use of alcohol and includes acute intoxication and dependence syndrome.
- *Alcohol harmful use* includes mental and behavioural disorders that are due to the harmful use of alcohol.
- *Toxic effects* include findings of alcohol, ethanol, methanol and 2-propanol alcohol, fuel oil, and other specified and unspecified alcohol in blood. Also included is poisoning by and exposure to alcohol, whether accidental, intentional, or of undetermined intent.
- *Liver damage* includes alcoholic fatty liver, alcoholic fibrosis and sclerosis of liver, alcoholic hepatic failure and alcoholic liver disease unspecified, as well as toxic liver disease and cirrhosis that may be attributed to alcohol use.
- *Other alcohol-related diagnoses* include pellagra; alcohol cardiomyopathy and other physical effects; fetal alcohol syndrome; alcohol-induced pseudo-Cushing's Syndrome and chronic pancreatitis; alcoholic gastritis; alcohol-related complications during pregnancy, childbirth, and post-partum; alcohol rehabilitation; and alcohol abuse counselling and surveillance. This diagnostic group also includes other diseases that may be attributed to alcohol use such as cancers of the liver and breast, diseases of the esophagus, testicular dysfunction and epilepsy.
- *Separations* are defined as the discharge or death of a patient. The same patient may be admitted and discharged with the same diagnosis more than once during the same year.
- Hospital separation rates represent either primary or secondary diagnoses for persons admitted as inpatients to active or psychiatric care hospitals operating in the province. No emergency or outpatient data have been included.

- Alcoholic psychosis, hepatitis and cirrhosis, alcohol dependence and toxic effects separations are explicitly attributed to alcohol use. Liver damage and other alcohol-related separations also include diseases that are attributed to alcohol use.
- Health disorders diagnosed as alcohol-related occur in relatively small numbers in relation to the total population and tend to be erratic geographically and over time.
- In 2004/05, there were 7,844 alcohol-related separations from acute care and psychiatric hospitals in Alberta. Approximately 12% of the hospital separations for those 14 years of age and younger had the primary or secondary diagnoses of fetal alcohol syndrome.

AADAC highlights

- The total separation rate for alcohol-related psychoses, dependence, harmful use and toxic effects was highest for the High Level service area and lowest for the Edson service area.
- The total separation rate for alcohol-related liver disease and other-related diagnoses was highest in High Level and lowest in Drayton Valley.

RHA highlights

- The total separation rate for alcohol-related psychoses, dependence, harmful use and toxic effects was highest for the Northern Lights RHA and lowest for the Capital RHA.
- The total separation rate for alcohol-related liver disease and other-related diagnoses was highest for the Northern Lights RHA and lowest for the Capital RHA.

TABLE 11: Alcohol-related hospital separations by AADAC service area, 2004/05
(rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)

	ALCOHOLIC PSYCHOSIS	ALCOHOLIC DEPENDENCE	ALCOHOL HARMFUL USE	TOXIC EFFECTS	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	0.37	1.47	0.09	0.18	2.11	14
Barrhead	0.40	0.63	0.15	0.07	1.25	24
Brooks	0.40	1.25	0.63	0.40	2.67	10
Calgary	0.29	0.34	0.35	0.04	1.02	26
Camrose	0.37	0.84	0.81	0.06	2.09	16
Canmore	1.13	0.82	0.61	0.20	2.76	9
Cold Lake	0.48	1.29	0.62	0.10	2.48	11
Crowsnest Pass	0.83	1.41	0.91	0.00	3.16	6
Drayton Valley	0.38	0.72	0.42	0.04	1.56	22
Drumheller	0.31	1.43	0.27	0.09	2.10	15
Edmonton	0.41	0.29	0.27	0.04	1.01	27
Edson	0.09	0.37	0.19	0.09	0.74	28
Fort McMurray	0.70	0.40	0.52	0.18	1.80	20
Grande Prairie	0.60	1.19	0.57	0.05	2.41	12
High Level	2.41	2.33	1.00	1.00	6.74	1
High Prairie	1.00	2.90	0.50	0.25	4.64	3
Hinton	0.26	1.04	0.26	0.17	1.74	21
Lac La Biche	0.78	0.65	0.78	0.91	3.13	7
Lethbridge	0.64	0.76	0.39	0.07	1.86	19
Medicine Hat	0.52	1.11	0.55	0.00	2.18	13
Peace River	0.97	1.27	0.83	0.00	3.07	8
Red Deer	0.34	1.10	0.49	0.04	1.98	17
Slave Lake	1.14	2.17	0.72	0.10	4.14	5
St. Paul	1.08	2.53	0.70	0.28	4.59	4
Stettler	0.07	0.56	0.56	0.07	1.27	23
Wainwright	0.29	0.64	0.29	0.03	1.25	24
Wetaskiwin	1.23	2.32	1.23	0.18	4.97	2
Whitecourt	0.43	1.08	0.36	0.00	1.87	18
Province	0.42	0.58	0.38	0.06	1.44	

TABLE 12: Hospital separations for alcohol-related liver diseases and other diagnoses
by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)

	ALCOHOLIC HEPATITIS	ALCOHOLIC CIRRHOSIS	LIVER DAMAGE	OTHER RELATED DIAGNOSES	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	0.00	0.46	0.55	1.84	2.85	7
Barrhead	0.00	0.00	0.11	1.18	1.29	27
Brooks	0.11	0.00	0.17	4.20	4.49	4
Calgary	0.03	0.06	0.13	1.24	1.46	24
Camrose	0.16	0.00	0.16	1.18	1.50	22
Canmore	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.69	2.00	16
Cold Lake	0.05	0.05	0.19	2.44	2.72	9
Crowsnest Pass	0.08	0.17	0.66	1.83	2.74	8
Drayton Valley	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.84	0.89	28
Drumheller	0.04	0.18	0.04	1.83	2.10	15
Edmonton	0.02	0.06	0.22	1.15	1.45	25
Edson	0.00	0.00	0.28	1.21	1.49	23
Fort McMurray	0.06	0.06	0.27	1.43	1.83	19
Grande Prairie	0.03	0.03	0.10	2.31	2.48	11
High Level	0.42	0.42	0.17	7.74	8.74	1
High Prairie	0.00	0.00	0.58	3.90	4.48	5
Hinton	0.17	0.09	0.09	1.04	1.39	26
Lac La Biche	0.00	0.00	0.26	2.35	2.61	10
Lethbridge	0.06	0.11	0.27	1.48	1.92	18
Medicine Hat	0.04	0.07	0.30	1.33	1.74	20
Peace River	0.00	0.19	0.29	2.00	2.48	11
Red Deer	0.06	0.03	0.24	1.90	2.22	13
Slave Lake	0.10	0.21	0.41	4.55	5.28	3
St. Paul	0.05	0.28	0.33	2.39	3.05	6
Stettler	0.00	0.14	0.07	1.48	1.69	21
Wainwright	0.00	0.15	0.32	1.69	2.16	14
Wetaskiwin	0.00	0.09	0.36	4.87	5.33	2
Whitecourt	0.00	0.07	0.07	1.80	1.95	17
Province	0.04	0.19	0.07	1.46	1.76	

TABLE 13: Alcohol-related hospital separations by regional health authority, 2004/05
(rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)

	ALCOHOLIC PSYCHOSIS	ALCOHOLIC DEPENDENCE	ALCOHOL HARMFUL USE	TOXIC EFFECTS	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Aspen	0.57	1.22	0.43	0.17	2.39	3
Calgary	0.32	0.36	0.36	0.04	1.08	8
Capital	0.41	0.27	0.27	0.04	0.99	9
Chinook	0.69	0.81	0.45	0.07	2.03	6
David Thompson	0.38	1.14	0.53	0.05	2.09	5
East Central	0.39	1.03	0.50	0.06	1.98	7
Northern Lights	1.14	0.90	0.65	0.40	3.09	1
Palliser	0.50	1.16	0.55	0.11	2.32	4
Peace Country	0.74	1.45	0.60	0.06	2.85	2
Province	0.42	0.58	0.38	0.06	1.44	

TABLE 14: Hospital separations for alcohol-related liver diseases and other diagnoses
by regional health authority, 2004/05 (rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)

	ALCOHOLIC HEPATITIS	ALCOHOLIC CIRRHOSIS	LIVER DAMAGE	OTHER RELATED DIAGNOSES	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Aspen	0.00	0.00	0.24	1.98	2.21	5
Calgary	0.04	0.07	0.13	1.27	1.50	8
Capital	0.02	0.06	0.21	1.14	1.43	9
Chinook	0.06	0.12	0.32	1.49	1.99	6
David Thompson	0.05	0.05	0.20	2.07	2.37	3
East Central	0.07	0.09	0.28	1.43	1.88	7
Northern Lights	0.16	0.16	0.25	3.02	3.58	1
Palliser	0.05	0.05	0.26	1.97	2.34	4
Peace Country	0.02	0.06	0.20	2.51	2.80	2
Province	0.04	0.19	0.07	1.46	1.76	

ALCOHOL-RELATED DEATHS (TABLES 15-16)

Source

Alberta Government Services, Vital Statistics, for the 2004 calendar year

Notes:

- Data represent select causes of death based on the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD-10-CM) including alcoholic psychoses and dependence, chronic liver disease, cirrhosis and hepatitis.
- Alcohol-related deaths tend to be under-reported. The primary cause of death may be listed as something other than alcohol, and alcohol may not be recorded as a secondary or contributing cause.
- Deaths reported by the provincial medical examiner are a key source of information. However, not all deaths are investigated, and in some instances, alcohol may be implicated (suicide) but is not listed as a complicating, contributing or causal factor.
- In 2004, Vital Statistics reported 9,109 substance-related deaths (excluding those for non-residents of Alberta and files with invalid postal codes); 7% were alcohol-related.

AADAC Highlights:

- The alcohol-related death rate was highest in the Wetaskiwin service area at almost twice the provincial rate and the lowest was Whitecourt service area with no alcohol-related deaths, followed by the Fort McMurray service area.

RHA Highlights:

- The alcohol-related death rate was highest in the Chinook RHA and lowest in the Northern Lights RHA.

TABLE 15: Alcohol-related deaths by AADAC service area, 2004
(rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)

	ALCOHOL-RELATED DEATHS	RANK
Athabasca	0.28	15
Barrhead	0.37	7
Brooks	0.28	15
Calgary	0.23	18
Camrose	0.19	22
Canmore	0.31	12
Cold Lake	0.14	24
Crowsnest Pass	0.25	17
Drayton Valley	0.34	9
Drumheller	0.40	5
Edmonton	0.30	13
Edson	0.19	22
Fort McMurray	0.03	27
Grande Prairie	0.14	24
High Level	0.08	26
High Prairie	0.33	10
Hinton	0.35	8
Lac La Biche	0.39	6
Lethbridge	0.53	2
Medicine Hat	0.33	10
Peace River	0.49	4
Red Deer	0.30	13
Slave Lake	0.21	20
St. Paul	0.52	3
Stettler	0.21	20
Wainwright	0.23	18
Wetaskiwin	0.55	1
Whitecourt	0.00	28
Province	0.28	

TABLE 16: Alcohol-related deaths by regional health authority, 2004
(rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)

	ALCOHOL-RELATED DEATHS	RANK
Aspen	0.28	5
Calgary	0.25	7
Capital	0.30	4
Chinook	0.46	1
David Thompson	0.31	2
East Central	0.28	5
Northern Lights	0.04	9
Palliser	0.31	2
Peace Country	0.24	8
Province	0.28	

ALCOHOL-RELATED 1-866 HELP LINE CALLS (TABLES 17-18)

Source

Capital Health Link, 1-866 AADAC Help Line, for the 2004/05 fiscal year

Notes:

- Rates are based on calls where the caller provided date of birth (15 years and older) and city. Twenty-four per cent of records included the caller's date of birth and city. The same caller may have called more than once in the fiscal year.
- In 2004/05, there were 17,200 addiction-related (alcohol, drug and/or gambling) calls to the 1-866 AADAC Help Line; 32% were alcohol-related.

AADAC highlights

- Alcohol-related call rates to the 1-866 AADAC Help Line were highest in the Drumheller service area and lowest in the Lac La Biche service area.

RHA highlights

- The alcohol-related call rate for the 1-866 AADAC Help Line was highest in the David Thompson and lowest in the East Central RHA.

TABLE 17: Alcohol-related 1-866 help line calls by AADAC service area, 2004/05
(rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	CALL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	0.28	21
Barrhead	0.77	5
Brooks	0.28	21
Calgary	0.56	15
Camrose	0.31	18
Canmore	0.26	23
Cold Lake	0.86	4
Crowsnest Pass	0.42	18
Drayton Valley	0.63	11
Drumheller	4.51	1
Edmonton	0.67	8
Edson	0.65	10
Fort McMurray	0.92	2
Grande Prairie	0.47	17
High Level	0.50	16
High Prairie	0.58	13
Hinton	0.26	23
Lac La Biche	0.13	25
Lethbridge	0.58	13
Medicine Hat	0.67	8
Peace River	0.73	6
Red Deer	0.42	18
Slave Lake	0.31	20
St. Paul	0.61	12
Stettler	0.28	21
Wainwright	0.23	24
Wetaskiwin	0.68	7
Whitecourt	0.87	3
Province	0.62	

TABLE 18: Alcohol-related 1-866 help line calls by regional health authority, 2004/05
(rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	CALL RATE	RANK
Aspen	0.62	4
Calgary	0.56	6
Capital	0.66	3
Chinook	0.58	5
David Thompson	0.90	1
East Central	0.30	9
Northern Lights	0.76	2
Palliser	0.55	7
Peace Country	0.54	8
Province	0.62	

REFERENCES

- ¹ Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission. (2006). *Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission 2005-2006 annual report*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ² Alberta Ministry of Gaming. (2006). *Alberta Gaming annual report 2005-2006: Innovative and socially responsible*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ³ Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse. (2004). *Canadian Addiction Survey (CAS): A national survey of Canadians' use of alcohol and other drugs: Prevalence of use and related harms: Highlights*. Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ⁴ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2006). *Canadian Addiction Survey 2004 Alberta report: Report on provincial use of alcohol and other drugs*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ⁵ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2006). *The Alberta Youth Experience Survey: Summary report*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ⁶ Alberta Health and Wellness. (2006). [Vital statistics notice of live or still birth and new-born record]. Custom tabulation. Edmonton, AB.
- ⁷ Statistics Canada. (2005). *The control and sale of alcoholic beverages in Canada: Fiscal year ended March 31, 2005*. (Statistics Canada cat. no. 63-202-XIE). Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ⁸ Bondy, S. J., Rehm, J., Ashley, M. J., Walsh, G., Single, E., & Room, R. (1999). Low-risk drinking guidelines: The scientific evidence. *Canadian Journal of Public Health*, 90, 264-270.
- ⁹ R. A. Malatest & Associates Ltd. (2003). *Substance Use and Gambling in the Alberta Workplace, 2002: A replication study*. Edmonton, AB: Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.
- ¹⁰ Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation. (2005). *Alberta traffic collision statistics, 2004*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ¹¹ Statistics Canada. (2006). [Canadian crime statistics, impaired driving incidents]. Custom tabulation. Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ¹² Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation. (2006). [Alberta suspension statistics]. Custom tabulation. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ¹³ Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation. (2004). *AZAT: Alberta zero alcohol tolerance*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ¹⁴ Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. (2006). [Alcohol/drugs in toxicology screen]. Custom tabulation. Edmonton, AB.
- ¹⁵ Statistics Canada. (2006). *Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile* (Statistics Canada cat. no. 85-224). Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ¹⁶ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2006). *ASIST statistics report, 2005-2006*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ¹⁷ Relm, J., Ballunas, D., Brochu, S., Fischer, B., Gnam, W., Patra, J., Popova, S., Sarnocinska-Hart, A., & Taylor, B. (2006). *The Costs of Substance Abuse in Canada 2002: Highlights*. Ottawa, ON: Canadian Centre of Substance Abuse.
- ¹⁸ Statistics Canada (August 2001). *The control and sale of alcoholic beverages in Canada*. Fiscal year ended March 31, 2001 (Statistics Canada cat. no. 63-202-X1B). Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ¹⁹ Statistics Canada (1998). *Family violence in Canada* (Statistics Canada cat. no. 85-224-XIE). Ottawa, ON: Author.

2-ILLICIT DRUGS

Illicit or “street” drugs are substances that are manufactured, imported, distributed or held unlawfully. This includes plant-based drugs like cannabis, cocaine and heroin, as well as chemical substances such as LSD, ecstasy and methamphetamine (crystal meth). Although illegal drug use affects a smaller proportion of the Alberta population, it is similar to alcohol use in terms of intoxication and adverse consequences.

Prevalence

- The most popular illicit drug in Alberta is cannabis (marijuana, hashish). In 2004, 15% of Albertans (15 and older) were current users of cannabis; 23% used weekly and 18.7% used daily or almost daily.^{1,2}
- In 2005, 26.7% of junior and senior high school students in Alberta* had used cannabis in the previous year.³
- The prevalence of other illicit drug use in Alberta is relatively low. Among Albertans, 3.5% report the use of illicit drugs other than cannabis (e.g., cocaine/crack, hallucinogens like LSD, speed/amphetamine or ecstasy).¹
- Among Alberta students,* 25.4% reported using one or more illicit drugs excluding cannabis (e.g., magic mushrooms, ecstasy, crystal meth, stimulants, cocaine) in the previous year.³
- In 2005, after cannabis, the most commonly used illicit drugs among Alberta students* were hallucinogens (including mescaline and psilocybin, or magic mushrooms, but excluding LSD or PCP) with 9.1% of students report using hallucinogens in the past year, while 9.9% report using in their lifetime; 1.1% of all students reported crystal meth use in the previous year, while 1.4% reported ever using crystal meth.³
- Among women who gave birth in 2002, 2.2% reported using street drugs during pregnancy. Marijuana was the most commonly used drug followed by cocaine and crack cocaine. Women reporting the use of ecstasy during pregnancy started in 2000, and as of 2002, women began reporting the use of crystal methamphetamine during pregnancy.⁴

Consequences

Drug problems occur at all levels of society throughout the province.

- In 2004, 18% of Albertans who used drugs in the past year reported personal harm from drug use including physical health problems, negative effects on friendships, financial difficulties and problems with work or school.

* Note: Information presented may not be representative of Alberta students as no students in Calgary and a limited number of high school students in Edmonton were included in the sample because of access restrictions.

- In 2005, 22% of newly diagnosed cases of HIV in Alberta had injection drug use (IDU) as the primary risk factor. From 1979 to December 31, 2005, 8.7% of reported AIDS cases in Alberta also had IDU as the primary risk factor.⁵
- The provincial Office of the Chief Medical Officer investigated 3,391 deaths in 2005. Toxicology screens* indicated 850 (25%) of the investigations involved alcohol, drugs or both. Of the deaths involving drugs and alcohol, 23% listed drugs and 6% alcohol and drugs as part of the primary medical cause of death.⁶
- Data from the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics indicate that between 1995 and 2004, of those spousal homicides that resulted from an argument, 78% of the accused persons and 72% of victims had used drugs and/or alcohol prior to the incident. For this same 10 year time period, the spousal homicide rate** for Alberta was 6.1 as compared to 4.8 for Canada.⁷
- During 2005 there were 8,410 drug offences in Alberta, including possession, trafficking and importation. Alberta had a lower drug offence rate than the rest of Canada (258 per 100,000 of the population versus 286). Cannabis offences accounted for 56% of all drug offences in Alberta.⁸
- In 2005/06, the needle exchange programs in Calgary, Edmonton, Grande Prairie, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and Red Deer distributed 1,202,597 needles.⁹
- It is estimated that in 2002, Alberta workers missed 800,000 working hours as a result of using illicit drugs.¹⁰
- In 2002, only 1% of Alberta employees reported using drugs while at work in the previous year.¹⁰
- In 2005/06, 37% of AADAC clients received treatment service for concerns about their drug use and 25% for concerns about their use of drugs in combination with alcohol, tobacco and/or gambling.¹¹

Costs

- The economic and social costs of illicit drug use in Alberta were estimated at \$1 billion in 2002. This was equal to \$314 per person. Productivity losses (\$608 million), law enforcement (\$213 million) and health care (\$149 million) accounted for the majority of total cost.¹²

Attitudes and Opinions

- In 2004, Albertans (aged 15 and older) perceived illicit drug abuse to be a somewhat serious or very serious problem in Alberta (88%) and in their community (83%).

* Toxicology screens are conducted at the discretion of the Office of the Chief Medical Officer and therefore are not a routine component of an investigation.

**Rate, per 1,000,000 legally married, common-law, separated and divorced spouses, 15 years of age and older, based on estimates provided by Demography division, Statistics Canada.⁷

- The majority of Albertans support drug treatment programs (97%) and harm reduction efforts such as programs offering clean needles or drug kits (77%) and health programs to reduce harm without being required to stop illicit drug use (62%). However, only 37% agreed with providing night shelters for people who are homeless without requiring alcohol and illicit drug use to stop.¹
- Albertans (aged 15 and older) were almost evenly divided on whether possessing small amounts of cannabis should be illegal: 53% indicated it should remain illegal and 47% indicated it should not be illegal.¹

Illicit Drug Indicators

DRUG-RELATED CRIMINAL OFFENCES (TABLES 19-20)

Source

Solicitor General and Public Security, Public Security Division for the 2004 calendar year

Notes

- Data presented are the actual number of offences or charges laid, as reported by RCMP and municipal police forces to Statistics Canada. These data may reflect variations in law enforcement practices and staffing differences in local communities. These limitations should be noted when comparing AADAC service areas or RHAs.
- An offence refers to an unlawful act by an individual. Offences are categorized by type according to federal and provincial statutes. The data do not reflect the outcome of reported offences with regard to their disposition by the courts.
- In 2004, there were 75,994 alcohol- or drug-related offences in Alberta. Cannabis and other drug-related offences (possession/trafficking) accounted for 11% of these offences.

AADAC highlights

- The rate of drug-related offences was highest in the Athabasca service area at more than four times the provincial rate. The lowest rate was in the Stettler service area.

RHA highlights

- The rate for drug-related offences was highest in the Northern Lights RHA and lowest in the Capital RHA.

TABLE 19: Reported offences: Cannabis and other illicit drugs by AADAC service area, 2004
(rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	CANNABIS	OTHER DRUGS	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	11.39	2.11	13.50	1
Barrhead	4.16	1.18	5.33	15
Brooks	3.35	2.22	5.57	12
Calgary	1.54	1.07	2.61	24
Camrose	5.30	1.50	6.79	8
Canmore	4.81	1.69	6.50	10
Cold Lake	2.48	1.53	4.01	22
Crowsnest Pass	5.23	0.17	5.40	14
Drayton Valley	2.49	2.24	4.73	17
Drumheller	2.73	1.92	4.65	18
Edmonton	1.33	1.13	2.46	26
Edson	4.56	2.14	6.70	9
Fort McMurray	9.25	3.91	13.16	2
Grande Prairie	4.87	2.96	7.84	6
High Level	4.33	2.91	7.24	7
High Prairie	3.73	4.89	8.62	5
Hinton	8.68	4.34	13.02	3
Lac La Biche	3.39	1.69	5.08	16
Lethbridge	2.81	1.47	4.28	21
Medicine Hat	0.98	1.52	2.50	25
Peace River	3.07	2.39	5.46	13
Red Deer	2.87	1.71	4.57	19
Slave Lake	3.72	2.07	5.79	11
St. Paul	2.76	0.89	3.66	23
Stettler	1.91	0.21	2.12	28
Wainwright	1.87	0.47	2.33	27
Wetaskiwin	2.46	1.91	4.37	20
Whitecourt	8.15	3.39	11.54	4
Province	2.17	1.36	3.54	

TABLE 20: Reported offences: Cannabis and other illicit drugs by Regional health authority, 2004
(Rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	CANNABIS	OTHER DRUGS	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Aspen	5.14	1.98	7.12	3
Calgary	1.63	1.09	2.72	8
Capital	1.32	1.13	2.45	9
Chinook	3.22	1.45	4.67	4
David Thompson	2.73	1.71	4.44	5
East Central	3.02	0.84	3.87	6
Northern Lights	7.95	3.65	11.60	1
Palliser	1.59	1.65	3.24	7
Peace Country	4.33	3.07	7.40	2
Province	2.17	1.36	3.54	

DRUG-RELATED DISEASES (TABLES 21-22)

Source

Alberta Health and Wellness, Strategic Directions Division, for the 2004/05 fiscal year

Notes

- All diagnoses are based on the Canadian Coding Standards for International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD-10-CA).
- *Drug psychosis* includes withdrawal state, withdrawal state with delirium, psychotic disorders, amnesic syndrome, and other specified and unspecified mental and behavioural disorders.
- *Drug dependence* includes acute intoxication and dependence syndrome.
- *Toxic effects* include the effects of non petroleum-based solvents, other medicinal substances, and other drugs and substances that are chiefly non-medical in source.
- *Other drug-related diagnoses* includes poisoning by analgesics, antipyretics, antirheumatics, sedatives, hypnotics, other psychotropic agents, or other medicinal substances, with intent being accidental, purposeful, an assault or undetermined. Also included are polyneuropathy, cardiomyopathy, cannabinosis, endocarditis, HIV, hepatitis and complications during pregnancy, childbirth, or postpartum.
- *Separations* are defined as the discharge or death of a patient. The same patient may be admitted and discharged with the same diagnosis more than once during the same year.
- Hospital separation rates represent either primary or secondary diagnoses for persons admitted as inpatients to active or psychiatric care hospitals operating in the province. No emergency or outpatient data have been included.
- All separations except the other drug-related diagnoses category include only those separations that explicitly attribute a disease to drug use. Other drug-related diagnoses include separations where drug use is a possible cause of disease.
- Health disorders diagnosed as drug-related occur in relatively small numbers in relation to the total population, and tend to be erratic geographically and over time.
- In 2004/05, there were 8,737 drug-related separations from acute care and psychiatric hospitals in Alberta. Approximately 3% of the hospital separations for those 14 years and younger had the primary or secondary diagnoses resulting from “maternal use of drugs of addiction.”

AADAC highlights

- The rate for drug-related separations was highest for the Slave Lake service area and lowest for the Drayton Valley service area.

RHA highlights

- The drug-related separation rate was highest for the Aspen RHA and lowest in the Capital RHA.

TABLE 21: Drug-related hospital separations by AADAC service area, 2004/05
(rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	DRUG PSYCHOSIS*	DRUG DEPENDENCE	DRUG HARMFUL USE*	TOXIC EFFECTS*	OTHER RELATED DIAGNOSIS**	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	0.37	0.09	0.28	1.38	0.28	2.39	16
Barrhead	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.70	0.11	1.91	19
Brooks	0.17	1.02	0.68	0.97	0.00	2.84	13
Calgary	0.17	0.36	0.53	0.33	0.04	1.43	26
Camrose	0.28	0.72	0.72	0.84	0.19	2.74	14
Canmore	0.41	0.77	0.46	1.07	0.26	2.97	11
Cold Lake	0.43	0.62	0.72	1.58	0.33	3.68	6
Crowsnest Pass	0.33	0.33	0.66	1.91	0.25	3.49	8
Drayton Valley	0.38	0.13	0.42	0.42	0.00	1.35	28
Drumheller	0.18	0.09	0.18	0.76	0.36	1.56	24
Edmonton	0.36	0.15	0.35	0.46	0.11	1.44	25
Edson	0.65	0.28	0.37	0.74	0.09	2.14	18
Fort McMurray	0.37	0.18	0.52	0.61	0.00	1.68	23
Grande Prairie	0.47	0.67	0.91	1.12	0.14	3.31	9
High Level	0.50	0.25	0.58	3.08	0.08	4.50	4
High Prairie	0.83	0.33	0.41	3.07	0.08	4.73	3
Hinton	0.35	0.43	0.35	0.69	0.00	1.82	22
Lac La Biche	0.26	0.00	0.65	3.13	0.13	4.17	5
Lethbridge	0.31	0.31	0.55	0.90	0.12	2.18	17
Medicine Hat	0.20	0.41	0.70	0.96	0.18	2.46	15
Peace River	0.15	0.44	0.24	1.02	0.05	1.90	21
Red Deer	0.65	0.79	0.73	0.84	0.10	3.11	10
Slave Lake	0.93	0.41	1.35	4.35	0.10	7.14	1
St. Paul	0.80	0.94	0.89	0.94	0.05	3.61	7
Stettler	0.21	0.35	0.42	0.85	0.07	1.91	19
Wainwright	0.17	0.29	0.15	0.70	0.06	1.37	27
Wetaskiwin	0.91	1.14	2.05	2.14	0.18	6.42	2
Whitecourt	0.43	0.50	0.43	1.30	0.29	2.96	12
Province	0.31	0.35	0.51	0.62	0.09	1.88	

* Explicitly attributed to drug use

**Drug use is possible cause

TABLE 22: Drug-related hospital separations by regional health authority, 2004/05
(rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	DRUG PSYCHOSIS*	DRUG DEPENDENCE*	DRUG HARMFUL USE*	TOXIC EFFECTS*	OTHER RELATED DIAGNOSIS**	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Aspen	0.50	0.50	0.61	1.42	0.17	3.19	1
Calgary	0.18	0.38	0.53	0.36	0.05	1.49	8
Capital	0.36	0.14	0.35	0.45	0.10	1.42	9
Chinook	0.27	0.31	0.59	1.00	0.12	2.30	6
David Thompson	0.57	0.67	0.76	0.90	0.12	3.01	3
East Central	0.23	0.48	0.40	0.80	0.11	2.02	7
Northern Lights	0.38	0.20	0.54	1.25	0.02	2.40	5
Palliser	0.22	0.54	0.70	0.96	0.14	2.55	4
Peace Country	0.46	0.56	0.67	1.37	0.11	3.17	2
Province	0.31	0.35	0.51	0.62	0.09	1.88	

* Explicitly attributed to drug use

**Drug use is possible cause

DRUG-RELATED DEATHS (TABLES 23-24)

Source

Alberta Government Services, Vital Statistics, for the 2004 calendar year

Notes

- Data represent select causes of death based on the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD-10-CM) including drug dependence, accidental or intentional poisoning by drugs, medicinal agents and biological substances, suicide, psychological disorders due to drug use, hepatitis and HIV.
- Drug-related deaths tend to be under-reported. The primary cause of death may be listed as something other than drugs, and drug ingestion may not be recorded as a secondary or contributing cause.
- Death due to overdose is one of the most dire consequences of drug abuse. Overdose deaths can be intentional or unintentional, and can result from both licit and illicit drug use. Drugs commonly implicated in overdose deaths include alcohol, psychoactive medications, analgesics, illicit drugs such as cocaine and heroin, and multiple drugs taken together.¹³
- Deaths reported by the provincial medical examiner are a key source of information. However, not all deaths are investigated and, in some instances, drugs may be implicated (e.g., suicide) but are not listed as a complicating, contributing, or causal factor.
- In 2004, Vital Statistics reported 9,109 substance-related deaths (excluding those for non-residents of Alberta and files with invalid postal codes); 4% were drug-related.

AADAC highlights

- In three of the 28 AADAC service areas there were no recorded drug-related deaths (Athabasca, Peace River, Slave Lake).
- The drug-related death rate was highest in the Whitecourt service area and lowest in the Cold Lake service areas.

RHA highlights

- The drug-related death rate was highest in the David Thompson RHA and lowest in Palliser.

TABLE 23: Drug-related deaths by AADAC service area, 2004
(rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)

	DRUG-RELATED DEATHS	RANK
Athabasca	0.00	24
Barrhead	0.11	14
Brooks	0.06	21
Calgary	0.12	13
Camrose	0.09	16
Canmore	0.26	3
Cold Lake	0.05	23
Crowsnest Pass	0.08	18
Drayton Valley	0.21	8
Drumheller	0.27	2
Edmonton	0.18	10
Edson	0.09	16
Fort McMurray	0.06	21
Grande Prairie	0.10	15
High Level	0.25	5
High Prairie	0.25	5
Hinton	0.09	16
Lac La Biche	0.26	3
Lethbridge	0.14	11
Medicine Hat	0.07	19
Peace River	0.00	24
Red Deer	0.21	8
Slave Lake	0.00	24
St. Paul	0.14	11
Stettler	0.07	19
Wainwright	0.09	16
Wetaskiwin	0.23	7
Whitecourt	0.36	1
Province	0.15	

TABLE 24 Drug-related deaths by regional health authority, 2004
(rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)

	DRUG-RELATED DEATHS	RANK
Aspen	0.12	4
Calgary	0.13	3
Capital	0.18	2
Chinook	0.12	4
David Thompson	0.20	1
East Central	0.09	8
Northern Lights	0.11	6
Palliser	0.08	9
Peace Country	0.11	6
Province	0.15	

DRUG-RELATED 1-866 HELP LINE CALLS (TABLES 25-26)

Source

Capital Health Link, 1-866 AADAC Help Line, for the 2004/05 fiscal year

Notes

- Rates are based on calls where the caller provided date of birth (15 years and older) and city. Twenty-four per cent of records included the caller's date of birth and city. The same caller may have called more than once in the fiscal year.
- In 2004/05 there were 17,200 addiction-related (alcohol, drug and/or gambling) calls to the 1-866 AADAC Help Line; 50% were drug-related.

AADAC highlights

- Drug-related call rates to the 1-866 AADAC Help Line were highest in the High Prairie service area and lowest in the Stettler service area.

RHA highlight:

- The drug-related call rate for the 1-866 AADAC Help Line was highest in Capital RHA and lowest in East Central.

TABLE 25: Drug-related 1-866 Help Line calls by AADAC service area, 2004/05
(rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	CALL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	0.73	14
Barrhead	0.99	5
Brooks	0.80	11
Calgary	0.77	12
Camrose	0.22	27
Canmore	0.31	25
Cold Lake	0.48	20
Crowsnest Pass	0.42	21
Drayton Valley	0.93	7
Drumheller	0.31	25
Edmonton	1.08	3
Edson	1.12	2
Fort McMurray	1.04	4
Grande Prairie	0.41	22
High Level	0.33	24
High Prairie	1.66	1
Hinton	0.69	15
Lac La Biche	0.91	8
Lethbridge	0.76	13
Medicine Hat	0.67	16
Peace River	0.49	19
Red Deer	0.62	17
Slave Lake	0.62	17
St. Paul	0.89	9
Stettler	0.14	28
Wainwright	0.38	23
Wetaskiwin	0.87	10
Whitecourt	0.94	6
Province	0.83	

TABLE 26: Drug-related 1-866 Help Line calls by regional health authority, 2004/05
(rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	CALL RATE	RANK
Aspen	0.80	3
Calgary	0.76	5
Capital	1.09	1
Chinook	0.77	4
David Thompson	0.60	7
East Central	0.39	9
Northern Lights	0.85	2
Palliser	0.66	6
Peace Country	0.57	8
Province	0.83	

REFERENCES

- ¹ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2005). *Canadian Addiction Survey 2004 Alberta report: Report on provincial use of alcohol and other drugs*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ² Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse. (2004). *Canadian Addiction Survey (CAS): A national survey of Canadians' use of alcohol and other drugs: Prevalence of use and related harms: Highlights*. Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ³ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2006). *The Alberta Youth Experience Survey: Summary report*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ⁴ Reproductive Health Report Working Group. (2004). *Alberta reproductive health: Pregnancies and births 2004*. Edmonton, AB: Alberta Health and Wellness.
- ⁵ Public Health Agency of Canada. (2006). *HIV and AIDS in Canada: Surveillance report to December 31, 2005*. Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ⁶ Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. (2006). [Alcohol/drugs in toxicology screen]. Custom tabulation. Edmonton, AB.
- ⁷ Statistics Canada. (2006). *Family violence in Canada: A statistical profile*. (catalogue no. 85-224). Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ⁸ Statistics Canada (July 2006). *Crime Statistics in Canada, 2005* (Statistics Canada cat. no. 85-002-XIE).
- ⁹ Alberta Community Council on HIV. (2006). [Needle exchange statistics]. Custom tabulation. Edmonton, AB.
- ¹⁰ R. A. Malatest & Associates Ltd. (2003). *Substance use and gambling in the Alberta workplace, 2002: A replication study*. Edmonton, AB: Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.
- ¹¹ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2006). *ASIST statistics report, 2005-2006*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ¹² Relm, J., Ballunas, D., Brochu, S., Fischer, B., Gnam, W., Patra, J., Popova, S., Sarnocinska-Hart, A., & Taylor, B. (2006). *The Costs of Substance Abuse in Canada 2002: Highlights*. Ottawa, ON: Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse.
- ¹³ C. Poulin, (1997). *Canadian Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Use (CCENDU). Inaugural national report*. Ottawa, ON: Health Canada.

3-MEDICATIONS

Medications include prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Most Albertans use medications to contribute to their health and well-being. However, some Albertans experience harmful consequences as a result of inappropriate use of pharmaceutical or over-the-counter drugs.

Distribution and revenue

- There were 865 licensed pharmacies in Alberta as of March 31, 2005.¹
- In 2004/05, more than 10 million prescriptions were claimed under the Alberta Blue Cross non-group plan* resulting in a net compensation for drugs of \$498 million.¹
- Total medication expenditure for 2005 in Alberta was forecast at \$2.3 billion with 80% of expenditures for prescribed drugs.²

Prevalence

- Among Albertans 18 and older surveyed in 2002, 5% reported using prescription opioids (including Tylenol® with codeine and prescription painkillers such as Demerol®, morphine and methadone) and 4% reported using sedatives like Valium®.³
- In 2005, 3.7% of Alberta students** surveyed reported using “uppers without a prescription” (stimulant drugs) and 1.5% reported using “downers without a prescription” (sedative drugs) in the past year.⁴
- The prevalence of medication use is influenced by a number of key factors including age and sex, disease patterns in a given population, the availability of new drug products and prescribing practices.⁵
- In 2004/05, seniors*** accounted for approximately 79% of prescriptions covered by Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group Plan. The majority of prescriptions filled under the non-group plan were cardiovascular drugs, central nervous system drugs and hormones and synthetic substitutes.¹

* The Alberta Blue-Cross Non-Group Coverage is a "supplemental health insurance plan for pharmaceuticals, and other selected health services." The coverage is free of charge for seniors, 65 and older, and Widow's Pension recipients and their dependents. Residents under the age of 65 can also participate in the program but are required to pay premiums for their coverage.

**Note: Information presented may not be representative of Alberta students as no students in Calgary and a limited number of high school students in Edmonton were included in the sample because of access restrictions.

***Seniors refer to Alberta Blue Cross membership category of "account holder or spouse/partner age 65 or older and their dependents."

Consequences

- Concerns about medication misuse include (1) the addictive potential of certain prescription drugs, (2) inappropriate prescribing practices, (3) potential for diverting medications to the black market through theft or prescription forgery, (4) escalating cost of prescription drugs, and (5) harmful patterns of consumption such as excessive or inappropriate use.⁶
- Prescription drug use is associated with considerable morbidity and mortality. Medications are often used in combination with alcohol or other drugs, and may be used intentionally or unintentionally in lethal amounts resulting in hospitalization or death.⁷ An estimated 10% to 30% of elderly hospital patients are admitted because of medication toxicity.⁸

Costs

- No recent data are available on the costs of inappropriate use of pharmaceuticals. A study conducted in 1995 estimated that inappropriate use of pharmaceuticals costs the Canadian economy \$3.5 to \$4.5 billion annually in direct health-care costs (e.g., hospitalization, physician visits and laboratory tests).⁵ However, these costs have likely increased as total health-care spending has increased at an average annual rate of 6.5% since 1985.²

Medication Indicators

TRIPLICATE PRESCRIPTION PROGRAM (TABLES 27-28)

Source

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta, Triplicate Prescription Program, for the 2005 calendar year

Notes

- On April 1, 1986, the Triplicate Prescription Program (TPP) was implemented in the province of Alberta. This program was designed to help prevent the diversion of certain types of medications to the street. The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta administers the TPP.
- The data presented here reflect all prescriptions dispensed in 2005 for drugs monitored by the TPP. It should be noted that the majority of prescription drugs in the province are not monitored by the TPP.
- *Opioids* (narcotic analgesics or painkillers) include anileridine, butorphanol, fentanyl, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, methadone, meperidine, morphine, oxycodone, pentazocine and propoxyphene, and generic class drugs.
- *Stimulants* include methylphenidate generic class drugs.
- *Barbiturates* include butalbital preparations generic class drugs.
- *Other drugs* include anabolic steroids.
- For the Alberta Profile, all generic classes of drugs were aggregated into the four broad categories noted above. These categories were delineated in consultation with the College of Physicians and Surgeons.
- In 2005, over 367,937 prescriptions were dispensed for drugs monitored by the TPP. Overall, 86% were for opioids, 11% for stimulant class drugs, 2% for barbiturates and 2% for other drugs.

AADAC highlights

- The rate of prescriptions dispensed was highest in the Crowsnest Pass service area, and lowest in the High Level service area.

RHA highlights

- The rate of prescriptions dispensed was highest in the Chinook RHA and lowest in the Northern Lights RHA.

TABLE 27: Prescriptions dispensed and monitored by the Triplicate Prescription Program
by AADAC service area, 2005 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	OPIOIDS	BARBITURATES	STIMULANTS	OTHER DRUGS	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	150.94	3.77	10.93	1.10	166.74	12
Barrhead	141.90	2.02	8.94	1.51	154.37	14
Brooks	181.36	1.82	33.41	0.45	217.05	4
Calgary	104.28	2.10	18.74	1.67	126.78	22
Camrose	122.37	4.70	7.07	1.31	135.45	19
Canmore	197.75	3.84	12.59	2.46	216.63	5
Cold Lake	90.18	1.67	15.19	2.34	109.39	26
Crowsnest Pass	265.45	2.41	9.80	1.25	278.90	1
Drayton Valley	111.41	3.63	9.55	2.24	126.83	20
Drumheller	124.09	3.44	9.66	2.68	139.87	17
Edmonton	147.06	3.92	17.41	1.68	170.07	11
Edson	161.82	1.49	7.82	1.12	172.25	10
Fort McMurray	103.60	1.28	8.18	0.82	113.89	24
Grande Prairie	155.72	2.19	14.54	2.10	174.54	8
High Level	73.61	1.67	5.75	1.33	82.35	28
High Prairie	163.93	0.50	9.04	0.91	174.38	9
Hinton	184.98	2.17	6.60	2.69	196.44	7
Lac La Biche	88.34	0.00	10.94	1.17	100.46	26
Lethbridge	192.12	2.78	22.52	2.68	220.09	3
Medicine Hat	142.98	3.09	14.60	2.55	163.22	13
Peace River	124.99	2.92	6.87	2.09	136.87	18
Red Deer	193.84	3.46	12.56	1.81	211.68	6
Slave Lake	127.78	3.72	15.00	2.07	148.58	15
St. Paul	83.27	2.58	7.03	1.36	94.24	27
Stettler	131.24	3.32	6.49	1.91	142.96	16
Wainwright	111.59	2.30	8.31	2.01	124.22	23
Wetaskiwin	105.28	2.92	17.77	0.87	126.83	20
Whitecourt	241.82	4.33	12.40	2.74	261.28	2
Province	134.89	2.92	16.52	1.76	156.09	

TABLE 28: Prescriptions dispensed and monitored by the Triplicate Prescription Program
by regional health authority, 2005 (rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	OPIOIDS	BARBITURATES	STIMULANTS	OTHER DRUGS	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Aspen	139.11	2.43	10.55	1.84	153.92	6
Calgary	108.60	2.19	18.77	1.72	131.28	8
Capital	143.82	3.74	17.19	1.65	166.41	4
Chinook	200.64	2.65	21.96	2.48	227.73	1
David Thompson	166.29	3.49	12.24	1.89	183.92	2
East Central	130.94	4.55	8.60	1.58	145.67	7
Northern Lights	95.79	1.39	7.55	0.96	105.69	9
Palliser	151.75	2.69	18.76	1.99	175.19	3
Peace Country	148.82	2.07	12.07	1.96	164.92	5
Province	134.89	2.92	16.52	1.76	156.09	

REFERENCES

- ¹ Alberta Health and Wellness. (2005). *Alberta health care insurance plan (AHCI): Statistical supplement 2004/2005*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ² Canadian Institute for Health Information. (2006). *Drug expenditures in Canada 1985 to 2005*. Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ³ Wild, T. C., Curtis, M., & Pazderka-Robinson, H. (2003). *Drug use in Edmonton (2001-02): A CCENDU report*. Edmonton, AB: Canadian Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Use.
- ⁴ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2006). *The Alberta Youth Experience Survey: Summary report*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ⁵ Health Canada. (1998). *Drug costs in Canada*. Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ⁶ Cook, D. A. (2004). *Addictions and medications*. Edmonton, AB: Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.
- ⁷ Poulin, C. (1997). *Canadian Community Epidemiology Network on Drug Use (CCENDU): Inaugural national report*. Ottawa, ON: Health Canada.
- ⁸ Millar, W. J. (1998). Multiple medication use among seniors. *Health Reports*, 9(4), 11-17.

4-GAMBLING

Legalized gambling generates significant revenue and has become an important economic factor in Alberta. The majority of Albertans gamble without experiencing any problems, while a small minority gamble to excess and experience a range of negative consequences.

Distribution and Revenue

- In 2005/06, Alberta gaming options included 5,992 video lottery terminals (VLTs) at 1,079 retail locations; 2,280 ticket lottery centres; 7,909 slot machines located in 17 casinos; 749 slot machines in three racing entertainment centres; 233 slot machines provided at summer fairs; and, 47 bingo halls.¹
- The Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) issued 5,721 licences in 2005/06 for charitable gaming activities that include bingo, charitable casinos, pull-ticket games and raffles.¹
- In 2005/06, provincial gaming gross profits in Alberta were \$2.0 billion with over \$1.2 billion deposited into the Alberta Lottery Fund. Charities earned \$254 million from licensed gaming activities.²

Prevalence

- In 2001, 82.0% of adult Albertans (18 years and older) were current gamblers. Most gamble as a social activity and do not experience any harmful consequences.³
- In 2001, the most common gambling activities were lottery tickets (61.8%), raffles or fundraising tickets (49.5%), and instant win or scratch tickets (29.2%).³
- Moderate risk and problem gamblers are those who experience behavioural problems or adverse consequences from their gambling activity. In 2001, 3.9% of Albertans were moderate risk gamblers and 1.3% were problem gamblers.³
- In Alberta, moderate risk and problem gambling rates were three times higher for Aboriginal adults than for the general adult population.³
- In 2005, 62.6% of Alberta students* (grades 7 to 12) reported gambling in the previous year. The most common gambling activities among youth in the past year were playing cards for money (41.3%), scratch tabs (35.0%), and betting on sporting events with a friend (28.4%).⁴

* Note: Information presented may not be representative of Alberta students as no students in Calgary and a limited number of high school students in Edmonton were included in the sample because of access restrictions.

Consequences

Problem gamblers experience a variety of financial and personal difficulties as a result of their gambling. Consequences include depression and anxiety, substance abuse, lost time from work, loss of employment, financial instability and criminal involvement.

- Albertans (aged 18 and over) spend more per capita on gambling activities than do residents of any other Canadian province or territory. In 2003-04, per capita spending in Alberta was \$664.⁵
- In 2004, the average household spending on games of chance in Alberta was reported at \$272.⁶
- During 2005 in Alberta, seven suicide cases (1.7% of suicide cases) investigated by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner cited gambling as a factor.⁷
- It is estimated that in 2002, Alberta employees missed 377,000 working hours as a result of gambling.⁸
- Thirty per cent of Alberta employees reported gambling while at work during 2002.⁸
- In 2005, the rate (per 100,000 population) of gaming and betting offences in Alberta was 0.28 as compared to total rate in Canada of 1.03.⁹
- In 2005/06, the AGLC Investigations Branch handled 285 criminal investigations into matters of gaming-related theft, fraud, forgery and cheating at play and as a result, 50 people were charged under Canada's Criminal Code.²
- AGLC charitable gaming inspections and site visits totaled 4,979 in 2005/06. Thirty of the incident reports filed resulted in penalties, representing less than 1% of the total inspections.²
- Since 2001, nearly 3,000 Albertans have signed on to the Voluntary Self-Exclusion (VSE) program. This program is designed for Albertans who feel that participating in gaming activities is not in their best interest and have voluntarily excluded themselves from all Alberta casinos and racing entertainment centres. In 2004/05, 18 participants in the VSE program were charged for re-entering a licensed gaming premise when prohibited from doing so.¹
- In 2005/06, 4% of AADAC clients received treatment service for gambling concerns and 3% for gambling concerns in combination with alcohol, other drugs and/or tobacco.¹⁰

Costs

- Annual provincial budgeted expenditures for prevention and treatment of problem gambling in Alberta were \$5.1 million in 2005/06.¹¹ One study estimated provincial expenditures of \$23 per problem gambler during the year.¹²

Attitudes and Opinions

- Fifty-three per cent of adult Albertans (aged 18 and over) believe problems associated with gambling are increasing in Alberta, and 29% believe problem gambling is a somewhat or very serious problem in their community.¹³
- In 2003, 200 VLTs were removed from seven Alberta communities that voted in favour of removal through local plebiscites.¹⁴
- In 2005/06, 71% of Albertans were satisfied with the conduct of Alberta's gaming industry.²

Gambling Indicators

GAMBLING-RELATED EXPENDITURES (TABLES 29-34)

Source

Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) for the 2004/05 fiscal year

Notes

- Figures presented are net sales per person for the fiscal year. This calculation is based on total monies wagered on a particular gaming activity minus prize payouts. Licence fees and operating expenses are not included in the calculation.
- The provincial total includes amounts wagered in all communities.
- In Alberta, the legal age for participating in gaming activities is 18 years of age. AGLC provides some non-association bingo licencees with exemptions that allow minors, accompanied by an adult, to play for cash prizes of no more than \$50.¹⁵
- *Charity gaming* includes bingo, raffles and pull-ticket events. The location for the raffles category is based on the location of the charity obtaining the licence, which may not be the place where the revenue is generated.
- Casinos with slot machine and table games are not available in all areas of Alberta. In 2005/06, the province had 17 casinos in the following locations: Edmonton, Calgary, Fort McMurray, Grande Prairie, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Red Deer, and St. Albert. Total net revenue from casinos for 2005/06 was \$172 million.¹

AADAC highlights

- Charity gaming net sales were highest in the Wetaskiwin service area and lowest in Drumheller service area.
- Net sales on lotteries were highest in the Fort McMurray service area and lowest in the Canmore service area.
- VLT net sales were highest in the Whitecourt service area and lowest in the Canmore service area. The Fort McMurray service area has no VLTs.

RHA highlights

- Per person net sales on charity gaming were highest in the Capital RHA and lowest in Northern Lights.
- Lottery net sales were highest in the Northern Lights RHA and lowest in the Chinook RHA.
- Per person net sales on VLTs were highest in the Aspen RHA and lowest in Northern Lights.

TABLE 29 Charity gaming: bingo, raffles and pull-tickets by AADAC service area, 2004/05
(net sales per person aged 15 years and older)

	BINGO	RAFFLES*	PULL TICKETS	NET SALES PER PERSON	RANK
Athabasca	\$0.47	\$0.00	\$8.05	\$8.52	27
Barrhead	1.58	0.81	9.59	11.98	24
Brooks	2.53	6.35	4.75	13.63	22
Calgary	24.61	36.30	4.32	65.23	10
Camrose	16.74	3.74	7.42	27.90	19
Canmore	0.99	1.67	6.66	9.32	26
Cold Lake	128.44	1.98	5.55	135.97	5
Crowsnest Pass	44.07	0.89	7.22	52.18	13
Drayton Valley	9.61	1.43	11.70	22.74	20
Drumheller	0.64	2.23	4.94	7.80	28
Edmonton	52.44	41.94	3.23	97.61	7
Edson	29.14	4.24	22.45	55.82	12
Fort McMurray	94.14	22.05	4.90	121.09	6
Grande Prairie	47.86	35.19	2.91	85.96	8
High Level	31.52	4.11	0.96	36.60	16
High Prairie	162.29	1.67	7.42	171.38	2
Hinton	44.63	0.00	6.33	50.96	14
Lac La Biche	157.54	0.00	3.53	161.07	3
Lethbridge	35.97	7.78	4.58	48.33	15
Medicine Hat	58.85	8.43	8.91	76.19	9
Peace River	24.21	2.72	6.75	33.68	17
Red Deer	36.66	13.89	7.03	57.58	11
Slave Lake	20.91	5.54	4.63	31.09	18
St. Paul	117.33	9.91	10.33	137.57	4
Stettler	1.58	1.25	12.26	15.09	21
Wainwright	6.94	2.20	3.59	12.73	23
Wetaskiwin	165.44	0.31	6.70	172.45	1
Whitecourt	0.00	0.55	9.43	9.98	25
Province	\$39.80	\$29.14	\$4.73	\$73.67	

* Note: The location for the raffles category is based on the location of the charity obtaining the licence, which may not be the place where the revenue is generated.

TABLE 30: Lottery tickets by AADAC service area, 2004/05 (net sales per person aged 18 and older)

	NUMBER OF RETAILERS	NET SALES* PER PERSON	RANK (NET SALES)
Athabasca	15	\$266.45	5
Barrhead	33	192.74	15
Brooks	16	189.37	16
Calgary	672	181.46	21
Camrose	28	166.62	24
Canmore	21	141.21	28
Cold Lake	22	211.86	12
Crowsnest Pass	14	196.25	14
Drayton Valley	22	172.90	22
Drumheller	27	162.90	25
Edmonton	702	223.00	10
Edson	16	304.10	2
Fort McMurray	35	466.44	1
Grande Prairie	53	221.75	11
High Level	8	186.27	19
High Prairie	12	189.34	17
Hinton	14	266.16	6
Lac La Biche	10	229.48	9
Lethbridge	95	157.44	26
Medicine Hat	53	186.82	18
Peace River	24	211.47	13
Red Deer	131	170.29	23
Slave Lake	16	291.97	3
St. Paul	37	251.65	7
Stettler	11	144.63	27
Wainwright	42	242.31	8
Wetaskiwin	24	185.64	20
Whitecourt	20	273.12	4
Province	2173	\$201.87	

* Does not include subscription sales

TABLE 31: Video lottery terminals (VLTs) by AADAC service area, 2004/05
(net sales per persons aged 18 years and older)

	NUMBER OF VLTs	NET SALES* PER PERSON	RANK (NET SALES)
Athabasca	41	\$465.29	13
Barrhead	82	353.76	21
Brooks	100	738.41	5
Calgary	1,635	290.17	25
Camrose	117	403.91	19
Canmore	26	140.94	27
Cold Lake	81	539.27	12
Crowsnest Pass	72	611.18	8
Drayton Valley	90	568.50	11
Drumheller	100	444.34	17
Edmonton	1,728	318.37	24
Edson	57	776.14	4
Fort McMurray	0	0.00	28
Grande Prairie	182	449.62	15
High Level	61	818.83	2
High Prairie	38	378.45	20
Hinton	51	601.89	9
Lac La Biche	30	585.91	10
Lethbridge	301	289.49	26
Medicine Hat	238	449.03	16
Peace River	93	614.95	7
Red Deer	347	324.57	23
Slave Lake	46	778.19	3
St. Paul	80	449.77	14
Stettler	60	440.07	18
Wainwright	184	648.58	6
Wetaskiwin	56	326.46	22
Whitecourt	82	820.29	1
Province	5,978	\$341.37	

* Does not include accounting adjustments (expired prizes).

TABLE 32: Charity gaming: bingo, raffles and pull-tickets by regional health authority, 2004/05
(net sales per person aged 15 years and older)

	BINGO	RAFFLES*	PULL-TICKETS	NET SALES PER PERSON	RANK
Aspen	\$33.73	\$1.44	\$5.30	\$40.47	6
Calgary	238.31	351.76	43.56	633.63	2
Capital	340.86	276.52	20.54	637.93	1
Chinook	5.38	1.01	0.63	7.02	8
David Thompson	71.59	16.42	13.72	101.73	3
East Central	19.67	3.88	6.40	29.94	7
Northern Lights	4.59	1.02	0.23	5.85	9
Palliser	72.25	13.28	13.01	98.54	4
Peace Country	55.97	22.69	4.44	83.10	5
Province	\$39.80	\$29.14	\$4.73	\$73.67	

* Note: The location for the raffles category is based on the location of the charity obtaining the licence, which may not be the place where the revenue is generated.

TABLE 33: Lottery tickets by regional health authority, 2004/05
(net sales per person aged 18 and older)

	NUMBER OF RETAILERS	NET SALES* PER PERSON	RANK
Aspen	171	\$241.54	2
Calgary	696	181.59	7
Capital	690	219.37	3
Chinook	99	159.82	9
David Thompson	216	174.78	8
East Central	94	214.78	5
Northern Lights	44	396.84	1
Palliser	70	185.71	6
Peace Country	93	216.03	4
Province	2173	\$201.87	

* Does not include subscription sales

TABLE 34: Video lottery terminals (VLTs) by regional health authority, 2004/05
(net sales per person aged 18 years and older)

	NUMBER OF VLTs	NET SALES* PER PERSON	RANK
Aspen	510	\$548.58	1
Calgary	1,675	288.21	8
Capital	1,687	313.07	7
Chinook	336	317.56	6
David Thompson	655	377.43	5
East Central	370	502.57	3
Northern Lights	58	210.65	9
Palliser	353	521.85	2
Peace Country	334	492.79	4
Province	5,978	\$341.37	

* Does not include accounting adjustments (expired prizes).

GAMBLING-RELATED 1-866 HELP LINE CALLS (TABLES 35-36)

Source

Capital Health Link, 1-866 AADAC Help Line, for the 2004/05 fiscal year

Notes

- Rates are based on calls where the caller provided date of birth (15 years and older) and city. Twenty-four per cent of records included the caller's date of birth and city. The same caller may have called more than once in the fiscal year.
- In 2004/05 there were 17,200 addiction-related (alcohol, drug and/or gambling) calls to the 1-866 AADAC Help Line; 18% were gambling-related.
- For the period August 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005*, 43% of those calling about gambling were concerned about their VLT gambling activity.

AADAC highlights

- Gambling-related call rates to the 1-866 AADAC Help Line were highest in the Whitecourt service area and lowest in Canmore. High Level had no gambling-related calls.

RHA highlights

- The gambling-related call rate to the 1-866 AADAC Help Line was highest in the Palliser RHA and lowest in Peace Country.

* "Gambling activity concerned about" data collection implemented August 2004.

TABLE 35: Gambling-related 1-866 Help Line calls by AADAC service area, 2004/05
(rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	CALL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	0.09	24
Barrhead	0.37	6
Brooks	0.57	2
Calgary	0.29	13
Camrose	0.31	11
Canmore	0.05	26
Cold Lake	0.53	3
Crowsnest Pass	0.17	21
Drayton Valley	0.46	4
Drumheller	0.18	20
Edmonton	0.37	6
Edson	0.19	19
Fort McMurray	0.40	5
Grande Prairie	0.22	17
High Level	0.00	27
High Prairie	0.17	21
Hinton	0.26	14
Lac La Biche	0.13	23
Lethbridge	0.31	11
Medicine Hat	0.37	6
Peace River	0.24	15
Red Deer	0.35	9
Slave Lake	0.21	18
St. Paul	0.23	15
Stettler	0.07	25
Wainwright	0.35	9
Wetaskiwin	0.36	8
Whitecourt	0.65	1
Province	0.32	

TABLE 36: Gambling-related 1-866 Help Line calls by regional health authority, 2004/05
(rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	CALL RATE	RANK
Aspen	0.33	3
Calgary	0.29	6
Capital	0.37	2
Chinook	0.29	6
David Thompson	0.33	3
East Central	0.32	5
Northern Lights	0.29	6
Palliser	0.41	1
Peace Country	0.24	9
Province	0.32	

REFERENCES

- ¹ Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission. (2006). *Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission 2005/2006 annual report*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ² Alberta Ministry of Gaming. (2006). *Alberta Gaming annual report 2005-2006: Innovative and socially responsible*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ³ Smith, G. J. & Wynne, H. J. (2002). *Measuring gambling and problem gambling in Alberta using the Canadian Problem Gambling Index*. Edmonton, AB: Alberta Gaming Research Institute.
- ⁴ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2006). *The Alberta Youth Experience Survey: Summary report*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ⁵ Canadian Partnership for Responsible Gambling. (2006). *Canadian gambling digest 2003-2004*. Toronto, ON: Author.
- ⁶ Statistics Canada. (2004). *2004 Survey of Household Spending*. Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ⁷ Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. (2006). [Suicides and gambling]. Custom tabulation. Edmonton, AB.
- ⁸ R. A. Malatest & Associates Ltd. (2003). *Substance use and gambling in the Alberta workplace, 2002: A replication study*. Edmonton, AB: Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.
- ⁹ Statistics Canada. (2006). *Uniform Crime Reporting Survey 2005*. Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ¹⁰ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2006). *ASIST statistics report, 2005-2006*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ¹¹ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2005). *Problem and responsible gambling strategy: Proposal for enhancement to address increasing problem gambling needs in Alberta*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ¹² Single, E., Robson, L., Ziaodi, X. & Rehm, J. (1996). *The costs of substance abuse in Canada*. Ottawa, ON: Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse.
- ¹³ Criterion Research Corporation. (2003). *Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission 2003 Public Opinion Survey: Final report*. Edmonton, AB: Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission.
- ¹⁴ Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission. (2006). *Gaming history and facts*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ¹⁵ Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission. (2003). *Frequently asked questions: Legal age for gaming*. Edmonton, AB: Author.

5–TOBACCO

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease, disability and death in Canada and in other developed countries. Smoking causes cancer, lung disease, heart disease and many other health problems. The dangers of smoking are not limited to smokers; second-hand smoke causes lung cancer, heart disease and health problems for children including ear infections and severe asthma.¹

Distribution and revenue

- The Alberta tobacco tax generated \$719 million in 2006.² This revenue goes into general revenues to pay for provincial services including healthcare.³ The Alberta Government collects \$32 per 200 cigarettes and \$16 per 200 roll-your-own cigarettes.⁴

Prevalence

- The smoking rate among Albertans 15 years and older is 21%. Alberta has a slightly higher smoking rate than Canada, with an estimated 19% of Canadians 15 years and older who are daily or occasional smokers.⁵
- The average number of cigarettes smoked per day by current daily smokers in Alberta is 14.9.⁵
- Among Albertans aged 15 to 19 years, the smoking rate is 19%. Young Albertans who are male are more likely than their female counterparts to be current smokers (21% versus 17%).⁵
- In Alberta, the smoking rate among young adults aged 20 to 24 years is 27%.⁵
- Just over one in 10 (11%) of Alberta's children (newborns to age 11) and teens (12 to 17 years) are regularly exposed to second-hand smoke at home.⁵
- Of women who gave birth in Alberta in 2002, 22% reported having smoked during their pregnancy. This includes those who reported quitting smoking while they were pregnant.⁶
- Of Alberta's 353 municipalities, there are 86 municipalities covered by some form of smoke-free workplace and/or public place bylaws. Of these, 13 municipalities had 100% smoke-free public place bylaws.⁷

Consequences

- Tobacco use is considered the single most significant cause of preventable morbidity (disease) and mortality (death) in Canada and most developed countries. Smoking causes cancer, lung disease, heart disease and many other health problems.⁸

- Second-hand smoke or environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) is a known carcinogen and exposure to second-hand smoke causes adverse health effects. Exposure of adults to second-hand smoke has immediate adverse effects on the cardiovascular system and causes coronary heart disease and lung cancer. Children exposed to second-hand smoke are at increased risk for sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), acute respiratory infections, ear problems and more severe asthma.^{1, 8}
- It is estimated that 3,400 Albertans die each year of smoking-related causes.⁹
- Between 2001 and 2005, smoking that led to ignition of upholstered furniture, bedding, or other material caused 28% of home fire fatalities in Alberta.¹⁰
- In 2005/06, the AGLC conducted 220 tobacco-related (smuggling and diversion) investigations; 48 charges were laid under the Tobacco Tax Act.¹¹
- In 2005, surveillance of tobacco retailers in Alberta indicated that 84.7% refused to sell to minors.¹²
- In 2005/06, 5% of AADAC clients received treatment service for tobacco concerns alone or in combination with alcohol, other drugs and/or gambling.¹³

Costs

- The cost of tobacco use in Alberta was estimated at \$1.8 billion in 2002; an amount equal to \$573 per Albertan. Productivity losses (\$1.3 billion) and health care (\$471 million) accounted for the majority of total cost.¹⁴

Attitudes and Opinions

- The Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey (CTUMS) is a surveillance tool that was established by Health Canada (HC) and provides information on smoking prevalence and related issues. This information is used for the development, implementation and evaluation of tobacco control strategies, policies and programs.⁵
- In 2005, 58% of Albertans (aged 15 years and older) responded that smoking should not be allowed in a restaurant and 49% felt smoking should be in a restricted area (enclosed or designated area).¹⁵
- When asked about smoking in bars and taverns, 42% of respondents indicated that smoking should be allowed in a restricted area and 33% responded that smoking should not be allowed (33%).¹⁵
- In 2005, more than half of Albertans (58%) thought that smoking should be allowed only in designated outdoor smoking areas of the workplace, 27% indicated that smoking should not be allowed in any area of the workplace (indoor or outdoor) and 11% responded that smoking should be allowed only in enclosed areas in the workplace.¹⁵

Tobacco Indicators

TOBACCO-RELATED DISEASES (TABLES 37-42)

Source

Alberta Health and Wellness, Strategic Directions Division, for the 2004/05 fiscal year

Notes

- All diagnoses are based on the Canadian Coding Standards for International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD-10-CA).
- *Separations* are defined as the discharge or death of an inpatient. The same patient may be admitted and discharged with the same diagnosis more than once during the same year.
- Hospital separation rates represent either primary or secondary diagnoses for persons admitted as inpatients to active or psychiatric care hospitals operating in the province. No emergency or outpatient data have been included.
- Separations included diseases where tobacco use is explicitly attributed (major cause), a contributing cause or a major risk factor.

Major cause

- *Smokers' syndrome* includes tobacco use dependence syndrome and simple chronic bronchitis (smoker's cough).
- *Lung/upper respiratory cancer* includes malignant neoplasm and carcinoma in situ of the respiratory and intrathoracic organs, the lip, oral cavity, pharynx and esophagus.

Contributing cause

- *Other cancers* include cancers of the pancreas, urinary bladder, kidney, liver, stomach, colon and rectum, genital organs and cervix.
- *Respiratory diseases* include pneumonia, influenza, bronchitis and emphysema.
- *Other tobacco-related diagnoses* include disease of the oral cavity, stomach and duodenum, pregnancy complications and fetus and newborn complications.

Major risk factor

- *Cardiovascular diseases* include hypertension, ischemic heart disease, pulmonary heart disease and other forms of heart disease.
- *Cerebrovascular diseases* include cerebral infarctions, aneurysms and hemorrhage.

- *Other arterial diseases* include atherosclerosis, aortic aneurysm and other arterial disease.
- In 2004/05, there were 51,653 tobacco-related separations (aged 15 years and older) from acute care and psychiatric hospitals in Alberta.

AADAC highlights

- Hospital separation rates for diseases where tobacco was indicated as the **major cause** were highest in the Grande Prairie service area and lowest in the Slave Lake service area.
- Hospital separation rates for diseases where tobacco was a **contributing cause** were highest in the High Prairie service area and lowest in the Canmore service area.
- The hospital separation rates for diseases where tobacco was a **major risk factor** were highest in the High Prairie service area and lowest in the Canmore service area.

RHA highlights

- Hospital separation rates for diseases where tobacco was the **major cause** were highest in the Peace County RHA and lowest in the Capital RHA.
- Hospital separation rates for diseases where tobacco was a **contributing cause** were highest in the Peace County RHA and lowest in the Calgary RHA.
- Hospital separation rates for diseases where tobacco was a **major risk factor** were highest in the East Central RHA and lowest in the Northern Lights RHA.

TABLE 37 Major cause*: Tobacco-related hospital separations by AADAC service area, 2004/05
(rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)

	SMOKERS' SYNDROME	LUNG/UPPER RESPIRATORY CANCER	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	0.73	0.18	0.92	15
Barrhead	0.48	0.29	0.77	22
Brooks	0.28	0.34	0.63	26
Calgary	0.74	0.09	0.83	17
Camrose	0.78	0.16	0.93	14
Canmore	0.51	0.15	0.67	25
Cold Lake	0.48	0.72	1.19	8
Crowsnest Pass	0.75	0.25	1.00	12
Drayton Valley	0.30	0.17	0.46	27
Drumheller	0.54	0.40	0.94	13
Edmonton	0.46	0.23	0.69	24
Edson	0.56	0.74	1.30	3
Fort McMurray	0.76	0.24	1.01	11
Grande Prairie	1.33	0.14	1.46	1
High Level	0.75	0.17	0.92	15
High Prairie	0.83	0.25	1.08	10
Hinton	0.87	0.35	1.22	7
Lac La Biche	0.52	0.26	0.78	20
Lethbridge	0.71	0.13	0.83	17
Medicine Hat	1.00	0.24	1.24	6
Peace River	1.02	0.24	1.27	5
Red Deer	1.08	0.22	1.30	3
Slave Lake	0.10	0.00	0.10	28
St. Paul	0.94	0.37	1.31	2
Stettler	0.56	0.21	0.78	20
Wainwright	0.50	0.29	0.79	19
Wetaskiwin	1.14	0.05	1.18	9
Whitecourt	0.43	0.29	0.72	23
Province	0.67	0.18	0.85	

* Diseases that are explicitly attributed to tobacco use

TABLE 38: Contributing cause*: Tobacco-related hospital separations by AADAC service area, 2004/05
(rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)

	OTHER CANCERS	RESPIRATORY DISEASES	OTHER TOBACCO- RELATED DISEASES	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	1.38	10.84	2.11	14.33	10
Barrhead	1.80	10.63	1.95	14.38	9
Brooks	1.25	7.84	3.47	12.56	14
Calgary	0.74	3.54	1.60	5.89	27
Camrose	1.09	8.13	1.65	10.87	19
Canmore	0.46	3.84	1.59	5.88	28
Cold Lake	0.86	6.74	2.05	9.65	21
Crowsnest Pass	1.08	16.53	2.41	20.02	3
Drayton Valley	1.06	6.59	1.39	9.04	22
Drumheller	1.39	8.99	1.92	12.29	16
Edmonton	0.88	5.58	1.61	8.07	24
Edson	0.47	6.05	1.12	7.64	25
Fort McMurray	0.55	3.42	2.11	6.07	26
Grande Prairie	0.72	8.54	2.62	11.88	18
High Level	0.67	9.24	5.33	15.24	8
High Prairie	0.41	19.82	4.31	24.54	1
Hinton	0.52	6.42	1.39	8.33	23
Lac La Biche	0.78	12.77	2.87	16.42	5
Lethbridge	1.01	7.75	1.64	10.40	20
Medicine Hat	1.61	8.71	1.79	12.12	17
Peace River	1.56	11.01	1.70	14.27	11
Red Deer	1.19	9.19	2.00	12.38	15
Slave Lake	0.93	12.00	4.45	17.38	4
St. Paul	1.97	15.46	2.76	20.20	2
Stettler	0.92	12.00	2.89	15.81	6
Wainwright	1.49	10.32	2.01	13.82	12
Wetaskiwin	0.91	11.03	3.55	15.49	7
Whitecourt	1.51	8.65	3.03	13.19	13
Province	0.91	5.99	1.80	8.70	

* Diseases for which tobacco use is a contributing cause

TABLE 39: Major risk factor*: Tobacco-related hospital separations by AADAC service area, 2004/05
(rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)

	CARDIOVASCULAR	CEREBROVASCULAR	OTHER ARTERIAL DISEASE	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	19.29	1.47	1.01	21.77	6
Barrhead	14.82	1.32	1.29	17.43	15
Brooks	17.56	1.36	0.91	19.83	10
Calgary	7.20	1.05	0.51	8.75	26
Camrose	17.73	1.25	0.97	19.94	9
Canmore	6.60	0.41	0.20	7.21	28
Cold Lake	11.37	0.96	0.72	13.04	20
Crowsnest Pass	21.68	1.91	1.58	25.17	2
Drayton Valley	10.31	1.14	0.63	12.08	21
Drumheller	18.69	1.65	0.94	21.28	7
Edmonton	8.67	1.32	0.82	10.81	23
Edson	12.29	0.47	0.74	13.50	19
Fort McMurray	7.33	0.67	0.67	8.67	27
Grande Prairie	12.68	1.07	0.76	14.50	17
High Level	9.33	0.75	0.25	10.32	24
High Prairie	24.71	1.00	1.41	27.11	1
Hinton	8.51	0.61	0.69	9.81	25
Lac La Biche	13.16	2.35	2.87	18.37	14
Lethbridge	14.86	1.23	0.91	17.00	16
Medicine Hat	19.74	1.37	0.94	22.05	5
Peace River	17.29	1.12	0.73	19.14	12
Red Deer	15.79	1.39	1.52	18.69	13
Slave Lake	11.48	1.86	1.14	14.49	18
St. Paul	20.90	1.36	1.69	23.95	3
Stettler	19.63	1.84	1.13	22.59	4
Wainwright	18.31	1.25	1.28	20.85	8
Wetaskiwin	16.86	1.59	1.05	19.50	11
Whitecourt	9.66	0.94	1.37	11.97	22
Province	10.31	1.26	0.79	12.36	

* Diseases for which tobacco use is a major risk factor

TABLE 40: Major cause*: Tobacco-related hospital separations by regional health authority, 2004/05
(rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)

	SMOKERS' SYNDROME	LUNG/UPPER RESPIRATORY CANCER	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Aspen	0.57	0.38	0.95	5
Calgary	0.75	0.09	0.84	7
Capital	0.45	0.22	0.68	9
Chinook	0.68	0.10	0.79	8
David Thompson	0.93	0.22	1.14	2
East Central	0.66	0.26	0.91	6
Northern Lights	0.76	0.22	0.99	4
Palliser	0.84	0.28	1.12	3
Peace Country	1.19	0.17	1.36	1
Province	0.67	0.18	0.85	

* Diseases that are explicitly attributed to tobacco use

TABLE 41: Contributing cause*: Tobacco-related hospital separations by regional health authority, 2004/05
(rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)

	OTHER CANCERS	RESPIRATORY DISEASES	OTHER TOBACCO- RELATED DISEASES	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Aspen	1.18	9.95	2.32	13.45	3
Calgary	0.76	3.64	1.62	6.02	9
Capital	0.85	5.48	1.61	7.94	8
Chinook	0.93	8.63	1.75	11.30	6
David Thompson	1.14	8.93	2.09	12.16	5
East Central	1.64	10.01	1.88	13.52	2
Northern Lights	0.58	4.88	2.96	8.42	7
Palliser	1.50	8.77	2.18	12.45	4
Peace Country	0.88	10.51	2.61	14.00	1
Province	0.91	5.99	1.80	8.70	

* Diseases for which tobacco use is a contributing cause

TABLE 42: Major risk factor*: Tobacco-related hospital separations by regional health authority, 2004/05
(rate per thousand aged 15 years and older)

	CARDIOVASCULAR	CEREBROVASCULAR	OTHER ARTERIAL DISEASE	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Aspen	13.61	1.21	1.20	16.02	6
Calgary	7.35	1.17	0.51	9.03	8
Capital	8.36	1.28	0.79	10.43	7
Chinook	15.38	1.33	0.97	17.68	4
David Thompson	15.58	1.53	1.28	18.38	3
East Central	19.72	1.49	1.41	22.62	1
Northern Lights	7.66	0.65	0.56	8.87	9
Palliser	19.39	1.37	0.96	21.72	2
Peace Country	15.22	1.15	0.82	17.19	5
Province	10.31	1.26	0.79	12.36	

* Diseases for which tobacco use is a major risk factor

TOBACCO-RELATED DEATHS (TABLES 43-44)

Source

Alberta Government Services, Vital Statistics, for the 2004 calendar year

Notes

- Data represent select causes of death based on the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD-10-CM) including cancers of lip, oral cavity, pharynx, and respiratory and intrathoracic organs; mental and behavioural disorders due to use of tobacco; diseases of the circulatory system such as hypertensive, heart and cerebrovascular diseases; diseases of the respiratory system such as chronic bronchitis and emphysema; and diseases of the stomach and duodenum.
- In 2004, Vital Statistics reported 9,109 substance-related deaths (excluding separations for non-residents of Alberta and files with invalid postal codes); 89% were tobacco-related.

AADAC highlights

- The death rate for tobacco-related causes was highest in the St. Paul service area and lowest in the Fort McMurray service area.

RHA highlights

- The tobacco-related death rate was highest in the East Central RHA and lowest in the Northern Lights RHA.

TABLE 43 Tobacco-related deaths by AADAC service area, 2004
(rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)

	TOBACCO-RELATED DEATHS	RANK
Athabasca	4.78	8
Barrhead	5.48	4
Brooks	3.75	15
Calgary	3.07	21
Camrose	4.61	9
Canmore	1.84	27
Cold Lake	3.25	19
Crowsnest Pass	5.56	2
Drayton Valley	2.87	22
Drumheller	5.54	3
Edmonton	3.35	18
Edson	4.00	13
Fort McMurray	0.37	28
Grande Prairie	2.58	24
High Level	2.08	25
High Prairie	4.48	11
Hinton	2.60	23
Lac La Biche	3.65	16
Lethbridge	4.92	6
Medicine Hat	4.09	12
Peace River	3.21	20
Red Deer	3.83	14
Slave Lake	1.86	26
St. Paul	6.00	1
Stettler	5.24	5
Wainwright	4.55	10
Wetaskiwin	4.92	6
Whitecourt	3.39	17
Province	3.44	

TABLE 44: Tobacco-related deaths by regional health authority, 2004
(rate per thousand population aged 15 and older)

	TOBACCO-RELATED DEATHS	RANK
Aspen	4.10	3
Calgary	3.13	7
Capital	3.31	6
Chinook	4.76	2
David Thompson	4.00	5
East Central	4.79	1
Northern Lights	0.83	9
Palliser	4.07	4
Peace Country	2.95	8
Province	3.44	

TOBACCO-RELATED 1-866 HELP LINE CALLS (TABLES 45-46)

Source

Capital Health Link, 1-866 AADAC Help Line, for the 2004/05 fiscal year

Notes

- Rates are based on calls where the caller provided date of birth (15 years and older) and city. Twenty-four per cent of records included the caller's date of birth and city. The same caller may have called more than once in the fiscal year.
- In 2004/05 the 1-866 AADAC Help Line had 2,866 tobacco-related calls.

AADAC highlights

- Tobacco-related Help Line call rates were highest in the Edmonton service area and lowest in the Brooks service area.

RHA highlights

- The tobacco-related Help Line call rates were highest in Capital RHA and lowest in Aspen.

TABLE 45 Tobacco-related 1-866 Help Line calls by AADAC service area, 2004/05
(rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	CALL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	0.46	19
Barrhead	0.40	22
Brooks	0.17	28
Calgary	0.74	10
Camrose	0.28	25
Canmore	0.20	26
Cold Lake	0.29	24
Crowsnest Pass	0.50	18
Drayton Valley	0.46	19
Drumheller	0.80	6
Edmonton	2.26	1
Edson	0.19	27
Fort McMurray	0.64	14
Grande Prairie	1.12	3
High Level	0.58	15
High Prairie	0.75	9
Hinton	0.52	16
Lac La Biche	0.52	16
Lethbridge	0.76	8
Medicine Hat	0.83	5
Peace River	0.34	23
Red Deer	1.17	2
Slave Lake	1.03	4
St. Paul	0.42	21
Stettler	0.71	12
Wainwright	0.67	13
Wetaskiwin	0.73	11
Whitecourt	0.79	7
Province	1.22	

TABLE 46: Tobacco-related 1-866 Help Line calls by regional health authority, 2004/05
(rate per thousand population aged 15 years and older)

	CALL RATE	RANK
Aspen	0.45	9
Calgary	0.72	5
Capital	2.24	1
Chinook	0.75	4
David Thompson	1.06	2
East Central	0.57	8
Northern Lights	0.60	7
Palliser	0.66	6
Peace Country	0.93	3
Province	1.22	

REFERENCES

- ¹ U.S. Department of Health Services. (2006). *The health consequences of involuntary exposure to tobacco smoke: A report of the surgeon general—executive summary*. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Coordinating Center for Health Promotion, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office of Smoking and Health.
- ² Alberta Finance (2006). *Alberta Finance annual report 2005-2006*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ³ Alberta Finance. (2006). *Tobacco tax revenue*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ⁴ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2006). *Truth about tobacco: Taxation*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ⁵ Statistics Canada. (2006). *Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey—2005*. [February 2005-December 2005]. Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ⁶ Alberta Health and Wellness. (2003). [Vital statistics: Notice of live or still birth and new-born record]. Custom tabulation. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ⁷ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2006). *Truth about tobacco: Alberta bylaw summary*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ⁸ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2004). *Truth about tobacco: Health effects*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ⁹ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2006). *Truth about tobacco: Smoking deaths*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ¹⁰ Fire Commissioner's Office. (2006). *Fire deaths in Alberta: A five-year review*. Edmonton, AB: Alberta Municipal Affairs.
- ¹¹ Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission. (2006). *Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission 2005/2006 annual report*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ¹² Health Canada. (2006). *Evaluation of retailers' behaviour towards certain youth access-to-tobacco restrictions—2005*. Ottawa, ON: Author.
- ¹³ Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. (2006). *ASIST statistics report, 2005-2006*. Edmonton, AB: Author.
- ¹⁴ Relm, J., Ballunas, D., Brochu, S., Fischer, B., Gnam, W., Patra, J., Popova, S., Sarnocinska-Hart, A., & Taylor, B. (2006). *The Costs of Substance Abuse in Canada 2002: Highlights*. Ottawa, ON: Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse.
- ¹⁵ Statistics Canada. (2006). *Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey—2005*. [February 2005-December 2005]. [Custom tabulation by Tobacco Research Services, AADAC]. Ottawa, ON: Author.

APPENDIX 1

Glossary Of Terms

<i>DEMOGRAPHICS</i>	Population statistics with reference to size, distribution and vital statistics.
<i>DETOXIFICATION</i>	AADAC non-medical facilities that provide a short-term, safe and supervised environment in which persons may withdraw from the effects of acute alcohol or other drug intoxication. Referrals are provided for clients needing ongoing treatment.
<i>IMPAIRED</i>	A legal definition indicating an alcohol concentration in the blood of more than 80 milligrams per 100 millilitres of blood (.08 per cent).
<i>INPATIENT</i>	A person who is admitted to a facility to receive diagnostic or treatment services in a residential setting and to whom a bed is allocated.
<i>OUTPATIENT</i>	A person who receives diagnostic or treatment services from a facility, but not as an inpatient.
<i>OUTPATIENT COUNSELLING</i>	AADAC outpatient offices provide alcohol, other drug and problem gambling counselling, information and referral services, community education and family support services to people concerned about their own use or someone else's use.
<i>PER CAPITA</i>	Frequency of occurrence of an event divided by the total population in question.
<i>PRIMARY DIAGNOSIS</i>	The dominant disease or condition for which a person is admitted to hospital.
<i>RATE</i>	The frequency with which an event occurs in a defined population. The components of the rate are the number of events of interest (numerator) and the specified population (denominator). Rates are ratios and are often expressed by some constant (e.g., per 1,000 population). Rates were calculated for this report by dividing the numerator by the denominator and multiplying by 1,000.

<i>RESIDENTIAL SERVICES</i>	AADAC residential facilities that provide specialized, intensive programs within a protected and supportive environment.
<i>SECONDARY DIAGNOSIS</i>	A disease or condition that contributes to a person’s ill health, but is not the primary cause of concern.
<i>SEPARATION</i>	<p>The discharge or death of an inpatient of a hospital. Separations do not represent individuals. A person may be admitted and discharged more than once during a given time period.</p> <p>Hospital separations for a specific group of diagnostic codes is based on the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD-10-CM).</p>
<i>SUBSTANCE</i>	All legal and illegal drugs including alcohol, tobacco, and prescription and street drugs.
<i>TOTAL RATE</i>	The total of several related indicators in the same table. This is not an average. Total rates were calculated for this report by adding the number of occurrences of each indicator; dividing by the total specified population; and multiplying by 1,000.

APPENDIX 2

Admissions to AADAC

ADMISSIONS TO AADAC (TABLES 2.1-2.2)

Source

AADAC Research Services, AADAC System for Information and Service Tracking (ASIST), for the 2005/06 fiscal year

Notes

- Total rates represent client admissions to AADAC for concerns about their own use or concerns about someone else's use of alcohol, other drugs and/or gambling. This includes admissions for detoxification, outpatient counselling, day programs, short-term residential treatment and youth services. AADAC Funded Agencies are not included.
- Rates consider the residence of the client rather than the location where the client receives service.
- Rates were not calculated for admission records with no age, invalid or out-of-province postal codes.
- Adult clients are those aged 18 years and older.
- Youth clients are those aged 17 or younger.

AADAC highlights

- The total rate of admissions to AADAC was highest from the Grande Prairie service area at more than twice the provincial rate. The lowest rate was from the Wainwright service area.

RHA highlights

- The total rate of admissions to AADAC was highest from the Peace Country RHA and lowest from the East Central RHA.

TABLE 2.1: Admissions to AADAC by AADAC service area, 2005/06 (rate per thousand population)

	ADULT CLIENT (OWN USE)	ADULT CLIENT (SOMEONE ELSE'S USE)	YOUTH CLIENT (OWN USE)	YOUTH CLIENT (SOMEONE ELSE'S USE)	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Athabasca	11.13	2.56	9.29	0.27	12.62	11
Barrhead	11.64	3.22	8.22	0.55	13.25	8
Brooks	14.00	4.79	8.91	1.09	16.34	5
Calgary	8.84	2.69	4.98	0.27	10.02	19
Camrose	9.22	1.67	6.24	0.10	9.73	20
Canmore	9.60	1.81	2.74	0.00	9.67	21
Cold Lake	12.91	2.62	5.47	0.11	12.45	13
Crowsnest Pass	9.17	2.47	3.71	0.00	9.67	21
Drayton Valley	9.49	1.59	4.62	0.11	9.26	27
Drumheller	11.91	2.57	6.67	0.54	12.60	12
Edmonton	9.77	1.45	4.27	0.14	9.58	24
Edson	16.98	2.00	6.77	0.78	15.80	6
Fort McMurray	14.82	2.10	11.56	0.17	15.44	7
Grande Prairie	24.11	4.11	5.92	0.64	22.02	1
High Level	12.88	1.28	1.67	0.77	9.29	26
High Prairie	9.85	0.63	7.19	0.74	9.64	23
Hinton	11.89	2.67	3.17	0.00	11.63	14
Lac La Biche	19.72	1.27	14.21	0.00	18.68	2
Lethbridge	10.69	2.35	4.47	0.67	10.91	17
Medicine Hat	10.44	3.49	4.09	0.53	11.62	15
Peace River	11.58	1.83	5.14	0.00	11.02	16
Red Deer	12.80	2.33	6.65	0.17	12.93	10
Slave Lake	23.25	1.68	7.35	0.58	18.67	3
St. Paul	11.40	2.20	10.95	0.92	13.12	9
Stettler	9.51	4.38	1.65	0.21	10.67	18
Wainwright	5.48	1.15	4.37	0.84	6.24	28
Wetaskiwin	10.75	0.54	4.97	0.34	9.47	25
Whitecourt	19.42	1.93	7.02	0.90	17.32	4
Province	10.37	2.21	5.16	0.29	10.78	

TABLE 2.2: Admissions to AADAC by regional health authority, 2005/06 (rate per thousand population)

	ADULT CLIENT (OWN USE)	ADULT CLIENT (SOMEONE ELSE'S USE)	YOUTH CLIENT (OWN USE)	YOUTH CLIENT (SOMEONE ELSE'S USE)	TOTAL RATE	RANK
Aspen	14.65	2.51	8.29	0.51	14.71	2
Calgary	8.94	2.68	4.96	0.27	10.09	7
Capital	9.81	1.47	4.33	0.14	9.63	8
Chinook	10.90	2.46	4.64	0.63	11.16	6
David Thompson	11.83	2.18	5.79	0.21	11.86	5
East Central	6.53	1.19	4.43	0.43	6.98	9
Northern Lights	14.23	1.89	7.72	0.40	13.52	3
Palliser	11.23	3.78	5.32	0.67	12.70	4
Peace Country	19.33	3.06	5.81	0.50	17.66	1
Province	10.37	2.21	5.16	0.29	10.78	

APPENDIX 3

Population and Other Demographic Indicators Presented by AADAC Service Areas

AADAC SERVICE AREA (TABLES 3.1-3.7)

Source

Census 2001, Statistics Canada

Notes

- Household income is the reported income from all individuals age 15 and over living in the same dwelling (regardless of relationship) for the calendar year preceding the census.
- Incidence of low income is the proportion of households that spent 20% more than average on basic necessities (i.e., food, shelter and clothing).
- The unemployment rate is the proportion of individuals aged 15 and over who were without paid work or self-employment but were available for work and either had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks, were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job, or had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.
- Highest level of schooling is the highest grade or year of elementary or secondary school attended or the highest year of university or college education completed for the population aged 20 and over.
- Two-parent families and families without children include both married and common-law couples.
- *Immigrants* refer to the proportion of the population born outside of Canada.
- *Visible minority* refers to the proportion of the population, excluding Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour.
- *Aboriginal identity* refers to the proportion of the population who identified with at least one Aboriginal group (North American Indian, Métis or Inuit), reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act of Canada*, or were members of an Indian Band or First Nation.

AADAC highlights

Note: Information presented in this section is the same as the 6th version of this report, as it is based on 2001 census data.

- Service areas in the northern part of the province (e.g., High Level, Slave Lake, Lac La Biche, High Prairie and Cold Lake service areas) have younger populations than the rest of the province.
- Both Fort McMurray and Calgary service areas have substantially higher average annual household incomes than the provincial average.
- The Edmonton service area has the highest incidence of households with low income.
- Slave Lake service area has the highest unemployment rate, almost twice as high as the provincial rate.
- Calgary, Camrose and Edmonton service areas have higher levels of education because greater proportions of those populations have university education.
- Slave Lake, Wetaskiwin, High Prairie and Edmonton service areas have higher than average proportions of lone-parent families.
- The two major urban centres, Calgary and Edmonton service areas, have larger than average immigrant and visible minority populations.
- Half of the population in the Slave Lake service area identify themselves as Aboriginal. Other services areas with high proportions of Aboriginal people are High Prairie, High Level, Lac La Biche and Wetaskiwin.

TABLE 3.1: Population age groups by AADAC service area, 2001

	CHILDREN (0-11 YEARS) %	YOUTH (12-17 YEARS) %	YOUNG ADULTS (18-24 YEARS) %	MIDDLE ADULTS (25-44 YEARS) %	OLDER ADULTS (45-64 YEARS) %	SENIORS (65 YEARS AND OVER) %	TOTAL
Athabasca	16.4	10.2	7.5	27.4	25.2	13.6	13,790
Barrhead	16.5	9.8	7.4	25.2	25.4	15.6	34,555
Brooks	18.4	9.6	11.9	32.4	19.4	8.4	22,885
Calgary	15.6	8.5	10.0	34.3	22.4	9.1	1,030,055
Camrose	15.6	9.9	8.1	25.2	24.5	16.7	40,305
Canmore	13.7	6.5	17.1	38.5	18.2	6.0	23,480
Cold Lake	20.3	10.9	8.9	34.6	17.7	7.8	28,190
Crowsnest Pass	16.1	8.9	7.3	25.3	26.5	16.0	15,105
Drayton Valley	18.0	10.7	7.8	30.1	23.9	9.5	30,900
Drumheller	16.2	9.7	8.5	27.4	22.9	15.3	28,330
Edmonton	15.4	8.6	10.8	31.6	22.7	10.8	940,600
Edson	17.3	10.4	9.4	30.7	23.4	8.7	13,860
Fort McMurray	18.1	10.3	11.3	36.9	21.3	2.0	42,605
Grande Prairie	18.6	10.0	10.9	32.7	20.1	7.7	75,990
High Level	29.8	11.7	11.6	29.5	13.2	4.1	18,735
High Prairie	21.6	11.1	8.4	28.3	20.7	9.9	16,595
Hinton	16.7	9.1	11.2	34.8	21.4	6.7	14,620
Lac La Biche	22.9	11.1	9.2	28.3	19.7	8.7	10,760
Lethbridge	17.5	9.6	10.8	26.5	21.7	13.9	143,500
Medicine Hat	15.9	9.0	9.9	28.6	22.4	14.3	67,805
Peace River	18.9	10.1	9.2	29.2	22.2	10.5	26,870
Red Deer	16.8	9.6	10.0	30.3	22.1	11.3	183,720
Slave Lake	25.1	11.6	10.1	32.9	16.4	3.8	14,085
St. Paul	17.8	9.6	7.7	24.8	23.5	16.5	27,590
Stettler	16.8	9.9	8.1	26.6	22.9	15.6	18,085
Wainwright	17.4	9.6	9.6	29.9	20.6	12.8	44,070
Wetaskiwin	19.3	10.9	8.2	26.4	22.8	12.3	29,235
Whitecourt	19.9	10.1	9.4	34.3	19.7	6.5	18,480
Province	16.3	9.0	10.2	31.9	22.3	10.4	2,974,810

TABLE 3.2: Average household income, incidence of low income and unemployment rate by AADAC service area, 2001

	Average household income in 2000 \$	Incidence of low income in 2000 %	Unemployment rate
Athabasca	\$52,930	12.6	4.8
Barrhead	\$47,718	12.7	5.7
Brooks	\$61,603	9.9	4.1
Calgary	\$73,488	13.6	4.9
Camrose	\$50,005	9.4	4.6
Canmore	\$60,459	12.6	4.5
Cold Lake	\$60,749	9.0	5.7
Crowsnest Pass	\$48,112	10.0	8.0
Drayton Valley	\$59,076	8.3	4.6
Drumheller	\$50,739	11.1	3.3
Edmonton	\$61,574	16.2	5.4
Edson	\$62,850	10.3	5.3
Fort McMurray	\$93,234	6.8	4.8
Grande Prairie	\$63,700	9.8	5.8
High Level	\$55,496	12.3	8.2
High Prairie	\$47,772	14.8	8.7
Hinton	\$65,547	10.6	6.4
Lac La Biche	\$51,633	16.7	8.8
Lethbridge	\$52,136	14.1	5.0
Medicine Hat	\$53,541	13.5	5.1
Peace River	\$55,481	12.1	5.9
Red Deer	\$58,383	11.3	5.1
Slave Lake	\$57,959	13.8	10.1
St. Paul	\$47,396	14.3	5.9
Stettler	\$50,682	10.2	3.1
Wainwright	\$57,453	9.4	2.9
Wetaskiwin	\$45,894	14.4	6.5
Whitecourt	\$63,615	9.9	5.7
Province	\$64,199	13.8	5.2

TABLE 3.3: Highest level of education by AADAC service area, 2001

	LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CERTIFICATE %	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CERTIFICATE %	TRADES CERTIFICATE OR DIPLOMA %	COLLEGE %	UNIVERSITY %
Athabasca	38.5	11.7	18.7	20.2	10.9
Barrhead	42.0	13.0	17.4	17.3	10.3
Brooks	40.0	12.4	15.9	19.1	12.6
Calgary	20.6	10.8	12.3	25.1	31.2
Camrose	35.6	14.5	15.4	19.9	14.5
Canmore	18.0	10.0	13.5	27.5	31.0
Cold Lake	31.3	12.7	19.1	22.3	14.5
Crowsnest Pass	34.5	11.5	18.4	22.4	13.2
Drayton Valley	36.5	13.9	17.8	20.9	10.9
Drumheller	34.9	13.2	14.3	23.8	13.9
Edmonton	25.0	11.3	13.6	24.8	25.4
Edson	37.3	14.5	18.2	18.5	11.6
Fort McMurray	22.0	12.6	23.7	24.4	17.3
Grande Prairie	31.6	13.2	17.2	24.2	13.8
High Level	53.8	9.1	12.0	15.9	9.3
High Prairie	40.1	12.2	15.8	20.9	11.0
Hinton	26.7	14.6	16.9	24.4	17.4
Lac La Biche	36.8	10.5	18.7	21.7	12.2
Lethbridge	30.8	11.5	14.1	24.2	19.3
Medicine Hat	35.6	11.8	14.9	23.7	14.0
Peace River	38.2	10.7	18.1	21.8	11.2
Red Deer	31.1	12.0	16.7	25.4	14.8
Slave Lake	39.3	9.8	16.6	21.7	12.6
St. Paul	42.9	10.7	15.5	18.5	12.4
Stettler	40.0	13.5	14.6	20.4	11.5
Wainwright	33.9	12.4	16.5	23.3	14.0
Wetaskiwin	40.6	12.7	16.0	18.7	11.9
Whitecourt	36.8	12.6	19.2	20.5	10.8
Province	26.3	11.4	14.0	24.3	24.0

Notes: Less than high school graduation certificate includes "less than grade 9" and "grade 9 to 13 without a high school graduation certificate."

College includes "college without a certificate or diploma" and "college with a certificate or diploma."

University includes "university without a degree, certificate or diploma," "university with a certificate or diploma" and "university with bachelor's degree or higher."

TABLE 3.4: Family structure by AADAC service area, 2001

	LONE-PARENT FAMILIES %	TWO-PARENT FAMILIES %	FAMILIES WITHOUT CHILDREN %
Athabasca	10.5	47.4	42.0
Barrhead	11.2	44.4	44.5
Brooks	9.2	51.9	38.9
Calgary	14.4	49.5	36.2
Camrose	11.1	44.0	45.0
Canmore	13.9	44.7	41.5
Cold Lake	13.5	52.7	33.7
Crowsnest Pass	13.9	41.8	44.3
Drayton Valley	11.7	50.0	38.3
Drumheller	9.7	46.8	43.5
Edmonton	16.1	48.8	35.1
Edson	10.8	48.9	40.1
Fort McMurray	13.5	57.1	29.3
Grande Prairie	12.5	51.5	36.0
High Level	14.8	62.8	22.5
High Prairie	17.2	50.6	32.3
Hinton	11.0	51.8	37.3
Lac La Biche	15.8	55.0	28.8
Lethbridge	13.1	46.7	40.2
Medicine Hat	12.8	45.5	41.7
Peace River	11.0	50.3	38.7
Red Deer	13.5	47.3	39.3
Slave Lake	18.6	55.7	25.9
St. Paul	12.9	45.9	41.2
Stettler	8.9	47.1	44.1
Wainwright	9.9	51.1	39.1
Wetaskiwin	18.1	43.5	38.4
Whitecourt	13.2	52.8	34.1
Province	14.4	48.9	36.7

TABLE 3.5: Proportion of immigrant, visible minority and Aboriginal people by AADAC service area, 2001

	IMMIGRANTS %	VISIBLE MINORITY %	ABORIGINAL IDENTITY %
Athabasca	6.3	1.2	10.1
Barrhead	6.9	2.1	7.4
Brooks	8.6	4.0	2.2
Calgary	20.0	16.3	2.6
Camrose	4.8	1.1	1.9
Canmore	14.2	7.7	10.9
Cold Lake	4.1	1.3	15.7
Crowsnest Pass	7.9	1.8	13.2
Drayton Valley	6.6	1.3	7.6
Drumheller	5.9	1.4	2.0
Edmonton	17.8	14.6	4.3
Edson	5.7	1.3	5.9
Fort McMurray	8.3	6.2	14.6
Grande Prairie	5.9	2.6	8.4
High Level	3.8	1.1	36.9
High Prairie	3.2	1.4	37.4
Hinton	8.4	3.4	8.3
Lac La Biche	4.4	4.0	36.6
Lethbridge	10.6	3.9	5.8
Medicine Hat	7.6	3.1	2.1
Peace River	5.7	2.1	12.0
Red Deer	7.3	2.9	4.0
Slave Lake	3.0	2.3	50.0
St. Paul	4.5	1.2	17.5
Stettler	3.5	0.8	1.8
Wainwright	4.4	1.9	2.8
Wetaskiwin	6.2	2.1	22.3
Whitecourt	4.2	2.2	7.4
Province	14.9	11.2	5.3

STUDENTS WHO HAVE DROPPED OUT (TABLE 3.6)

Source

Alberta Education, Information Services Branch, for the 2005 school year

Notes

- Age-specific cohort comprises all students, aged 14 to 18 who are registered in public, separate, francophone, charter or private school authorities on September 30th of a given school year.
- A student initially included in the age-specific cohort is considered to have dropped out of school if there is no evidence of their participation in the Alberta learning system in the subsequent school year.
- In the 2005 school year, 10,655 Alberta students aged 14 to 18 had dropped out of school.

AADAC highlights

- Slave Lake service area had the highest school dropout rate and Wainwright had the lowest.

TABLE 3.6: Students who have dropped out by AADAC service area, 2005
(rate per thousand population aged 14–18 years)

	DROPOUT RATE*	RANK
Athabasca	48.31	14
Barrhead	52.06	11
Brooks	48.79	13
Calgary	46.02	20
Camrose	34.35	26
Canmore	45.42	23
Cold Lake	60.61	7
Crowsnest Pass	45.49	22
Drayton Valley	47.23	15
Drumheller	46.05	19
Edmonton	46.98	16
Edson	50.82	12
Fort McMurray	62.26	5
Grande Prairie	60.27	9
High Level	86.52	2
High Prairie	63.45	4
Hinton	46.96	17
Lac La Biche	74.47	3
Lethbridge	44.10	24
Medicine Hat	41.91	25
Peace River	57.39	10
Red Deer	45.61	21
Slave Lake	104.31	1
St. Paul	60.45	8
Stettler	25.68	27
Wainwright	24.79	28
Wetaskiwin	46.54	18
Whitecourt	60.78	6
Province	47.69	

*Notes: For this report, dropout rates are calculated using Alberta population aged 14 to 18 years and rates are not adjusted for attrition (students who have left the province or died). Alberta Education reports dropout rates as percentages with rate calculations based on the number of students who are registered in the K–12 system. Alberta Education calculations include attrition.

TABLE 3.7: Population of Alberta cities, towns and villages by AADAC service area

ATHABASCA	CALGARY	Rosalind..... 202
Total Population..... 13,790	Total Population 1,030,055	Ryley..... 437
Athabasca..... 2,415	Acme..... 648	Sedgewick..... 865
Bondiss S.V. 104	Airdrie..... 27,069	Strome..... 273
Boyle..... 851	Beiseker..... 828	Tofield..... 1,818
Island Lake S.V. 216	Black Diamond..... 1,866	
Island Lake South S.V. 71	Calgary..... 956,078	CANMORE
Mewatha Beach S.V. 101	Carstairs..... 2,501	Total Population..... 23,480
South Baptiste S.V. 44	Chestermere..... 7,904	Banff..... 8,352
Sunset Beach S.V. 50	Cochrane..... 12,688	Banff Nat'l Park..... 1,497
West Baptiste S.V. 46	Cremona..... 415	Canmore..... 11,442
Whispering Hills S.V. 118	Crossfield..... 2,603	Ghost Lake S.V. 69
	Didsbury..... 3,932	Kananaskis..... 462
	High River..... 9,522	Waiparous S.V. 55
BARRHEAD	Hussar..... 181	
Total Population..... 34,555	Irricana..... 1,104	
Alberta Beach..... 762	Linden..... 649	COLD LAKE
Barrhead..... 4,213	Longview..... 307	Total Population..... 28,190
Birch Cove S.V. 19	Nanton..... 1,841	Bonnyville..... 5,896
Castle Island S.V. 10	Okotoks..... 11,664	Bonnyville Beach S.V. 74
Clyde..... 491	Rockyford..... 375	Cold Lake..... 11,595
Larkspur S.V. 21	Standard..... 389	Glendon..... 459
Onoway..... 1,036	Strathmore..... 9,653	Pelican Narrows S.V. 112
Ross Haven S.V. 109	Turner Valley..... 1,786	
Silver Sands S.V..... 126		
South View S.V. 87	CAMROSE	CROWSNEST PASS
Sunset Point S.V. 176	Total Population 40,305	Total Population..... 15,105
Swan Hills..... 1,807	Alliance..... 171	Cowley..... 225
Thorhild..... 478	Bashaw..... 825	Crowsnest Pass..... 6,262
Val Quentin S.V. 143		Pincher Creek..... 3,666
West Cove S.V. 105	Bawlf..... 362	Waterton Nat'l Park..... 155
Westlock..... 4,820	Bittern Lake..... 221	
Yellowstone S.V. 98	Camrose..... 15,850	
	Daysland..... 779	DRAYTON VALLEY
BROOKS	Edberg..... 150	Total Population..... 30,900
Total Population..... 22,885	Ferintosh..... 176	Betula Beach S.V. 10
Bassano..... 1,320	Forestburg..... 863	Breton..... 573
Brooks..... 11,604	Galahad..... 161	Drayton Valley..... 6,210
Duchess..... 836	Hay Lakes..... 398	Kapasiwin S.V. 14
Rosemary..... 366	Heisler..... 183	Lakeview S.V. 15
Tilley..... 422	Holden..... 374	Point Alison S.V. 10
	Killam..... 1,004	Seba Beach S.V. 137
	Lougheed..... 228	Spring Lake..... 545
	New Norway..... 292	Wabamun..... 601

DRUMHELLER	EDSON	Jasper 4,511
Total Population 28,330	Total Population 13,860	Jasper Nat'l Park 49
Carbon 530	Edson 8,365	
Cereal 160		LAC LA BICHE
Delia 215		Total Population 10,760
Drumheller 7,785	FORT MCMURRAY	Lac La Biche 2,776
Hanna 2,986	Total Population 42,605	
Morrin 252	(Note: Fort McMurray service area total population based on 2001 Census; next Census, 2006)	
Munson 222		LETHBRIDGE
Oyen 1,101	Fort McMurray 60,983	Total Population 143,500
Three Hills 3,554	(Note: Fort McMurray population based on Alberta Municipal Affairs, 2005 Official Population List)	Arrowwood 190
Trochu 1,033	Wood Buffalo Regional Municipality (rural service area only) 12,193	Barnwell 548
Youngstown 184		Barons 296
		Cardston 3,475
EDMONTON		Carmangay 261
Total Population 940,600		Champion 355
Beaumont 8,361	GRANDE PRAIRIE	Claresholm 3,622
Bon Accord 1,532	Total Population 75,990	Coaldale 6,104
Bruderheim 1,202	Beaverlodge 2,176	Coalhurst 1,493
Calmar 1,992	Grande Cache 3,828	Coutts 364
Chipman 260	Grande Prairie 44,631	Fort MacLeod 2,990
Devon 6,095	Hythe 749	Glenwood 258
Edmonton 712,391	Rycroft 609	Granum 420
Elk Island Nat'l Park 27	Sexsmith 1,934	Hillspring 218
Fort Saskatchewan 14,685	Spirit River 1,100	Lethbridge 77,202
Gibbons 2,730	Valleyview 1,856	Lomond 171
Golden Days S.V. 125	Wembley 1,542	Magrath 1,993
Innisfree 219		Milk River 879
Itaska Beach S.V. 10	HIGH LEVEL	Milo 115
Lamont 1,692	Total Population 18,735	Nobleford 676
Leduc 15,630	High Level 3,849	Picture Butte 1,701
Legal 1,058	Rainbow Lake 1,186	Raymond 3,200
Mannville 722	Wood Buffalo Nat'l Park 369	Stavely 455
Minburn 88		Stirling 877
Morinville 6,540	HIGH PRAIRIE	Taber 7,671
Mundare 715	Total Population 16,595	Vauxhall 1,112
Nakamun Park S.V. 31	Donnelly 377	Vulcan 1,762
New Sarepta 401	Falher 1,109	Warner 379
Redwater 2,172	Girouxville 306	
Sandy Beach S.V. 201	High Prairie 2,820	MEDICINE HAT
Spruce Grove 18,405	McLennan 804	Total Population 67,805
St. Albert 56,310		Bow Island 1,704
Stony Plain 10,544		Empress 171
Sundance Beach S.V. 37		Foremost 531
Sunrise Beach S.V. 95	HINTON	Medicine Hat 56,048
Thorsby 799	Total Population 14,620	Redcliff 4,372
Vegreville 5,376	Hinton 9,405	
Warburg 560		

PEACE RIVER		ST. PAUL		Vermilion..... 4,435	
Total Population.....	26,870	Total Population	27,590	Viking..... 1,052	
Berwyn.....	546	Andrew.....	485	Wainwright..... 5,365	
Fairview.....	3,150	Derwent.....	111		
Grimshaw.....	2,435	Elk Point.....	1,440	WETASKIWIN	
Hines Creek.....	437	Horseshoe Bay S.V.	52	Total Population.....	29,235
Manning.....	1,293	Myrnam.....	322	Argentia Beach S.V.	24
Nampa.....	372	Smoky Lake.....	1,011	Crystal Springs S.V.	72
Peace River.....	6,240	St. Paul.....	5,144	Grandview S.V.	85
		Two Hills.....	1,091	Ma-Me-O Beach S.V.	81
		Viina.....	269	Millet.....	2,125
RED DEER		Waskatenau.....	252	Norris Beach S.V.	29
Total Population.....	183,720	Willingdon.....	287	Poplar Bay S.V.	84
				Silver Beach S.V.	39
Alix.....	825	STETTLER		Wetaskiwin.....	11,154
Bentley.....	1,095	Total Population	18,085		
Birchcliff S.V.	105			WHITECOURT	
Blackfalds.....	4,373	Big Valley.....	340	Total Population.....	18,480
Bowden.....	1,174	Botha.....	186		
Burnstick Lake S.V.	10	Castor.....	935	Fox Creek.....	2,337
Caroline.....	556	Consort.....	634	Mayerthorpe.....	1,570
Clive.....	591	Coronation.....	1,074	Sangudo.....	398
Delburne.....	719	Donalda.....	230	Whitcourt.....	8,747
Eckville.....	1,019	Gadsby.....	40		
Elnora.....	274	Halkirk.....	117	PROVINCIAL POPULATION,	
Gull Lake S.V.	143	Rochon Sands S.V.	58	2001 – 2,974,810	
Half Moon Bay S.V.	37	Stettler.....	5,226	SOURCE	
Innisfail.....	7,208	Veteran.....	292	2001 Census (total population)	
Jarvis Bay S.V.	124	White Sands S.V.	73	Alberta Municipal Affairs,	
Lacombe.....	10,850			Municipal Services Branch	
Norglenwood S.V.	267	WAINWRIGHT		2005 Official Population List	
Olds.....	6,703	Total Population	44,070	(cities, towns & villages)	
Parkland Beach S.V.	97			NOTES	
Penhold.....	1,750	Amisk.....	181	Provincial population total and	
Ponoka.....	6,330	Chauvin.....	378	AADAC service area totals	
Red Deer.....	79,082	Czar.....	205	include municipal districts,	
Rimbey.....	2,160	Dewberry.....	200	counties, reserves and other	
Rocky Mountain House ..	6,584	Edgerton.....	403	special areas; counts for these	
Sunbreaker Cove S.V.	86	Hardisty.....	761	areas are not listed individually.	
Sundre.....	2,267	Hughenden.....	235		
Sylvan Lake.....	8,504	Irma.....	435	S.V. = Summer Village	
		Kitscoty.....	698		
SLAVE LAKE		Lloydminster (AB only)..	15,487		
Total Population.....	14,085	Marwayne.....	550		
		Paradise Valley.....	152		
Kinuso.....	231	Provost.....	2,078		
Slave Lake.....	6,600				

APPENDIX 4

Population and Other Demographic Indicators Presented by Regional Health Authority

REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (RHA) (TABLES 4.1-4.7)

Source

Census 2001, Statistics Canada.

Notes

- Household income is the reported income from all individuals aged 15 and over living in the same dwelling (regardless of relationship) for the calendar year preceding the census.
- Incidence of low income is the proportion of households that spent 20% more than average on basic necessities (i.e., food, shelter and clothing).
- The unemployment rate is the proportion of individuals aged 15 and over who were without paid work or self-employment but were available for work and either had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks, were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job, or had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.
- Highest level of schooling is the highest grade or year of elementary or secondary school attended or the highest year of university or college education completed for the population aged 20 and over.
- Two-parent families and families without children include both married and common-law couples.
- *Immigrants* refer to the proportion of the population born outside of Canada.
- *Visible minority* refers to the proportion of the population, excluding Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour.
- *Aboriginal identity* refers to the proportion of the population who identified with at least one Aboriginal group (North American Indian, Métis or Inuit), reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act of Canada*, or were members of an Indian Band or First Nation.

RHA Highlights

- Northern Lights RHA has a younger than average population.
- Northern Lights and Calgary RHAs have the highest average annual household incomes.
- The incidence of low income is highest in the Capital RHA.
- Aspen RHA has the highest unemployment rate, followed by Peace Country.
- Greater than average proportions of individuals with university education are found in the Calgary and Capital RHAs.
- Capital RHA has the greatest proportion of lone-parent families.
- Calgary and Capital RHAs have the greatest proportions of immigrants and visible minorities.
- Northern Lights RHA has the greatest proportion of individuals who identify themselves as Aboriginal, which is four times the provincial average.

TABLE 4.1: Population age groups by RHA, 2001

	CHILDREN (0-11 YEARS) %	YOUTH (12-17 YEARS) %	YOUNG ADULTS (18-24 YEARS) %	MIDDLE ADULTS (25-44 YEARS) %	OLDER ADULTS (45-64 YEARS) %	SENIORS (65 YEARS AND OVER) %	TOTAL
Aspen	18.9	10.3	8.8	30.0	21.6	10.4	167,215
Calgary	15.6	8.4	10.2	34.4	22.3	9.1	1,051,865
Capital	15.5	8.7	10.8	31.7	22.8	10.6	939,650
Chinook	17.5	9.6	10.7	26.6	21.9	13.7	147,085
David Thompson	17.0	9.8	9.4	29.4	22.4	12.0	283,315
East Central	16.1	9.6	8.4	26.9	23.1	15.9	107,825
Northern Lights	21.7	10.7	11.4	34.7	18.8	2.6	61,190
Palliser	16.4	9.1	10.4	29.5	21.7	12.9	93,540
Peace Country	19.1	10.2	10.2	31.3	20.6	8.5	123,125
Province	16.3	9.0	10.2	31.9	22.3	10.4	2,974,810

TABLE 4.2: Average household income, incidence of low income and unemployment rate by RHA, 2001.

	AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN 2000 \$	INCIDENCE OF LOW INCOME IN 2000 %	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
Aspen	\$55,815	11.8	6.2
Calgary	\$73,201	13.7	4.9
Capital	\$61,753	16.2	5.4
Chinook	\$51,845	13.8	5.4
David Thompson	\$55,974	11.1	4.8
East Central	\$52,160	10.4	3.9
Northern Lights	\$83,374	8.2	5.6
Palliser	\$55,171	12.4	4.8
Peace Country	\$59,746	10.8	6.1
Province	\$64,199	13.8	5.2

TABLE 4.3: Highest level of education by RHA, 2001

	LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CERTIFICATE %	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CERTIFICATE %	TRADES CERTIFICATE OR DIPLOMA %	COLLEGE %	UNIVERSITY %
Aspen	36.9	12.4	17.8	20.3	12.5
Calgary	20.6	10.8	12.3	25.1	31.2
Capital	24.8	11.3	13.7	24.9	25.3
Chinook	30.8	11.3	14.5	24.3	19.0
David Thompson	33.2	12.4	16.3	24.0	14.1
East Central	36.8	12.9	15.6	20.9	13.7
Northern Lights	30.3	11.7	20.6	22.2	15.2
Palliser	36.5	12.1	15.1	22.6	13.7
Peace Country	34.1	12.5	17.4	23.2	12.8
Province	26.3	11.4	14.0	24.3	24.0

Notes: Less than high school graduation certificate includes “less than grade 9” and “grade 9 to 13 without a high school graduation certificate.”

College includes “college without a certificate or diploma” and “college with a certificate or diploma.”

University includes “university without a degree, certificate or diploma,” “university with a certificate or diploma” and “university with bachelor’s degree or higher.”

TABLE 4.4: Family structure by RHA, 2001

	LONE-PARENT FAMILIES %	TWO-PARENT FAMILIES %	FAMILIES WITHOUT CHILDREN %
Aspen	12.8	49.8	37.4
Calgary	14.4	49.3	36.3
Capital	16.1	48.9	35.0
Chinook	13.3	46.6	40.0
David Thompson	13.1	47.1	39.9
East Central	10.6	46.6	42.8
Northern Lights	13.9	58.7	27.5
Palliser	11.9	47.0	41.1
Peace Country	12.8	51.3	35.9
Province	14.4	48.9	36.7

TABLE 4.5: Proportion of immigrant, visible minority and Aboriginal people by RHA, 2001

	IMMIGRANTS %	VISIBLE MINORITY %	ABORIGINAL IDENTITY %
Aspen	5.3	2.0	15.9
Calgary	19.8	16.1	2.8
Capital	17.8	14.6	4.4
Chinook	10.6	3.9	6.8
David Thompson	6.8	2.4	5.6
East Central	4.7	1.5	2.6
Northern Lights	6.9	4.6	21.4
Palliser	7.6	3.2	2.1
Peace Country	5.4	2.3	13.4
Province	14.9	11.2	5.3

STUDENTS WHO HAVE DROPPED OUT (TABLE 4.6)

Source

Alberta Education, Information Services Branch for the 2005 school year

Notes

- A student initially included in the age-specific cohort (see below) is considered to have dropped out of school if there is no evidence of their participation in the Alberta learning system in the subsequent school year.
- Age-specific cohort comprises all students, aged 14 to 18 who are registered in public, separate, francophone, charter or private school authorities on September 30th of a given school year.
- In the 2005 school year, 10,655 Alberta students aged 14 to 18 had dropped out of school.

RHA highlights

- Northern Lights RHA had the highest school dropout rate with Palliser RHA the lowest.

TABLE 4.6: Students who have dropped out by RHA, 2005
(rate per thousand population aged 14–18 years)

	DROPOUT RATE*	RANK
Aspen	59.86	3
Calgary	46.22	5
Capital	47.24	4
Chinook	44.91	6
David Thompson	44.14	7
East Central	31.95	9
Northern Lights	70.58	1
Palliser	42.47	8
Peace Country	60.10	2
Province	47.69	

* Notes: For this report, dropout rates are calculated using Alberta population aged 14 to 18 years and rates are not adjusted for attrition (students who have left the province or died). Alberta Education reports dropout rates as percentages with rate calculations based on the number of students who are registered in the K–12 system. Alberta Education calculations include attrition.

TABLE 4.7: Population of Alberta cities, towns and villages by RHA

ASPEN	Westlock.....4,820	Edmonton 712,391
Total Population 167,215	Whispering Hills S.V. 118	Elk Island Nat'l Park27
Alberta Beach 762	Whitecourt8,747	Fort Saskatchewan..... 14,685
Athabasca 2,415	Yellowstone S.V. 98	Gibbons 2,730
Barrhead 4,213	CALGARY	Golden Days S.V. 125
Birch Cove S.V. 19	Total Population 1,051,865	Itaska Beach S.V.10
Bondiss S.V. 104	Airdrie27,069	Kapasiwin S.V.14
Bonnyville 5,896	Arrowwood 190	Lakeview S.V.15
Bonnyville Beach S.V. 74	Banff8,352	Leduc..... 15,630
Boyle 851	Banff Nat'l Park 1,497	Legal..... 1,058
Castle Island S.V. 10	Beiseker 828	Morinville 6,540
Clyde..... 491	Black Diamond 1,866	New Sarepta..... 401
Cold Lake..... 11,595	Calgary956,078	Point Alison S.V.10
Edson..... 8,365	Canmore11,442	Redwater 2,172
Elk Point..... 1,440	Champion..... 355	Sandy Beach S.V. 201
Glendon 459	Chestermere 7,904	Seba Beach S.V. 137
Hinton..... 9,405	Claresholm 3,622	Spruce Grove 18,405
Horseshoe Bay S.V. 52	Cochrane.....12,688	St. Albert..... 56,310
Island Lake S.V. 216	Crossfield 2,603	Stony Plain 10,544
Island Lake South S.V. 71	Didsbury 3,932	Sundance Beach S.V.37
Jasper 4,511	Ghost Lake S.V. 69	Thorsby..... 799
Jasper Nat'l Park 49	High River 9,522	Wabamun 601
Lac La Biche 2,776	Hussar 181	Warburg..... 560
Larkspur S.V. 21	Irricana 1,104	CHINOOK
Mayerthorpe..... 1,570	Kananaskis..... 462	Total Population..... 147,085
Mewatha Beach S.V. 101	Lomond 171	Barnwell 548
Nakamun Park S.V. 31	Longview 307	Barons 296
Onoway..... 1,036	Milo..... 115	Cardston 3,475
Pelican Narrows S.V. 112	Nanton..... 1,841	Carmangay 261
Ross Haven S.V. 109	Rockyford 375	Coaldale 6,104
Sangudo..... 398	Okotoks 11,664	Coalhurst 1,493
Silver Sands S.V. 126	Standard..... 389	Coutts 364
Slave Lake 6,600	Stavely 455	Cowley..... 225
Smoky Lake 1,011	Strathmore 9,653	Crowsnest Pass..... 6,262
South Baptiste S.V. 44	Turner Valley..... 1,786	Fort MacLeod 2,990
South View S.V. 87	Vulcan 1,762	Glenwood 258
St. Paul 5,144	Waiparous S.V. 55	Granum 420
Sunrise Beach S.V. 95	CAPITAL	Hillspring..... 218
Sunset Beach S.V. 50	Total Population 939,650	Lethbridge..... 77,202
Sunset Point S.V. 176	Beaumont..... 8,361	Magrath 1,993
Swan Hills 1,807	Betula Beach S.V. 10	Milk River..... 879
Thorhild 478	Bon Accord..... 1,532	Nobleford 676
Val Quentin S.V. 143	Calmar..... 1,992	Picture Butte..... 1,701
Vilna 269	Devon..... 6,095	Pincher Creek..... 3,666
Waskatenau..... 252		Raymond 3,200
West Baptiste S.V. 46		Stirling..... 877
West Cove S.V. 105		

Taber.....	7,671	Norglenwood S.V.	267	Innisfree.....	219
Vauxhall.....	1,112	Norris Beach S.V.	29	Irma.....	435
Warner.....	379	Olds.....	6,703	Killam.....	1,004
Waterton Nat'l Park.....	155	Parkland Beach S.V.	97	Kitscoty.....	698
		Penhold.....	1,750	Lamont.....	1,692
DAVID THOMPSON		Ponoka.....	6,330	Lloydminster (AB only)	15,487
Total Population.....	283,315	Poplar Bay S.V.	84	Lougheed.....	228
		Red Deer.....	79,082	Mannville.....	722
Acme.....	648	Rimbey.....	2,160	Marwayne.....	550
Alix.....	825	Rochon Sands S.V.	58	Minburn.....	88
Argentia Beach S.V.	24	Rocky Mountain House.....	6,584	Mundare.....	715
Bentley.....	1,094	Silver Beach S.V.	39	Mynnam.....	322
Big Valley.....	340	Stettler.....	5,226	New Norway.....	292
Birchcliff S.V.	105	Sunbreaker Cove S.V.	86	Paradise Valley.....	152
Blackfalds.....	4,373	Sundre.....	2,267	Provost.....	2,078
Botha.....	186	Sylvan Lake.....	8,504	Rosalind.....	202
Bowden.....	1,174	Three Hills.....	3,554	Ryley.....	437
Breton.....	573	Trochu.....	1,033	Sedgewick.....	865
Burnstick Lake S.V.	10	Veteran.....	292	Spring Lake.....	545
Carbon.....	530	Wetaskiwin.....	11,154	Strome.....	273
Caroline.....	556	White Sands S.V.	73	Tofield.....	1,818
Carstairs.....	2,501			Two Hills.....	1,091
Castor.....	935	EAST CENTRAL		Vegreville.....	5,376
Clive.....	591	Total Population.....	107,825	Vermilion.....	4,435
Consort.....	634			Viking.....	1,052
Coronation.....	1,074	Alliance.....	171	Wainwright.....	5,365
Cremona.....	415	Amisk.....	181	Willingdon.....	287
Crystal Springs S.V.	72	Andrew.....	485		
Delburne.....	719	Bashaw.....	825	NORTHERN LIGHTS	
Delia.....	215	Bawlf.....	362	Total Population.....	61,190
Donalda.....	230	Bittern Lake.....	221	(Note: Northern Lights RHA total	
Drayton Valley.....	6,210	Bruderheim.....	1,202	population based on 2001 Census;	
Drumheller.....	7,785	Camrose.....	15,850	next Census, 2005)	
Eckville.....	1,019	Chauvin.....	378		
Elnora.....	274	Chipman.....	260	Fort McMurray.....	60,983
Gadsby.....	40	Czar.....	205	(Note: Fort McMurray population	
Grandview S.V.	85	Daysland.....	779	based on Alberta Municipal Affairs,	
Gull Lake S.V.	143	Derwent.....	111	2005 Official Population List)	
Half Moon Bay S.V.	37	Dewberry.....	200	High Level.....	3,849
Halkirk.....	117	Edberg.....	150	Rainbow Lake.....	1,186
Hanna.....	2,986	Edgerton.....	403	Wood Buffalo Nat'l Park.....	369
Innisfail.....	7,208	Ferintosh.....	176	Wood Buffalo Regional	
Jarvis Bay S.V.	124	Forestburg.....	863	Municipality	
Lacombe.....	10,850	Galahad.....	161	(rural service areas)	12,193
Linden.....	649	Hardisty.....	761		
Ma-Me-O Beach S.V.	81	Hay Lakes.....	398	PALLISER	
Millet.....	2,125	Heisler.....	183	Total Population.....	93,540
Morrin.....	252	Holden.....	374		
Munson.....	222	Hughenden.....	235	Bassano.....	1,320
				Bow Island.....	1,704
				Brooks.....	11,604

Cereal	160
Duchess.....	836
Empress.....	171
Foremost.....	531
Medicine Hat.....	56,048
Oyen	1,101
Redcliff.....	4,372
Rosemary.....	366
Tilley.....	422
Youngstown	184

PEACE COUNTRY

Total Population..... 123,125

Beaverlodge.....	2,176
Berwyn.....	546
Donnelly.....	377
Fairview.....	3,150
Falher.....	1,109
Fox Creek	2,337
Girouxville	306
Grande Cache	3,828
Grande Prairie	44,631
Grimshaw.....	2,435
High Prairie	2,820
Hines Creek	437
Hythe.....	749
Kinuso	231
Manning	1,293
McLennan	804
Nampa	372
Peace River	6,240
Rycroft.....	609
Sexsmith	1,934
Spirit River	1,100
Valleyview	1,856
Wembley.....	1,542

**PROVINCIAL POPULATION,
2001 – 2,974,810**

SOURCE

2001 Census (total population)

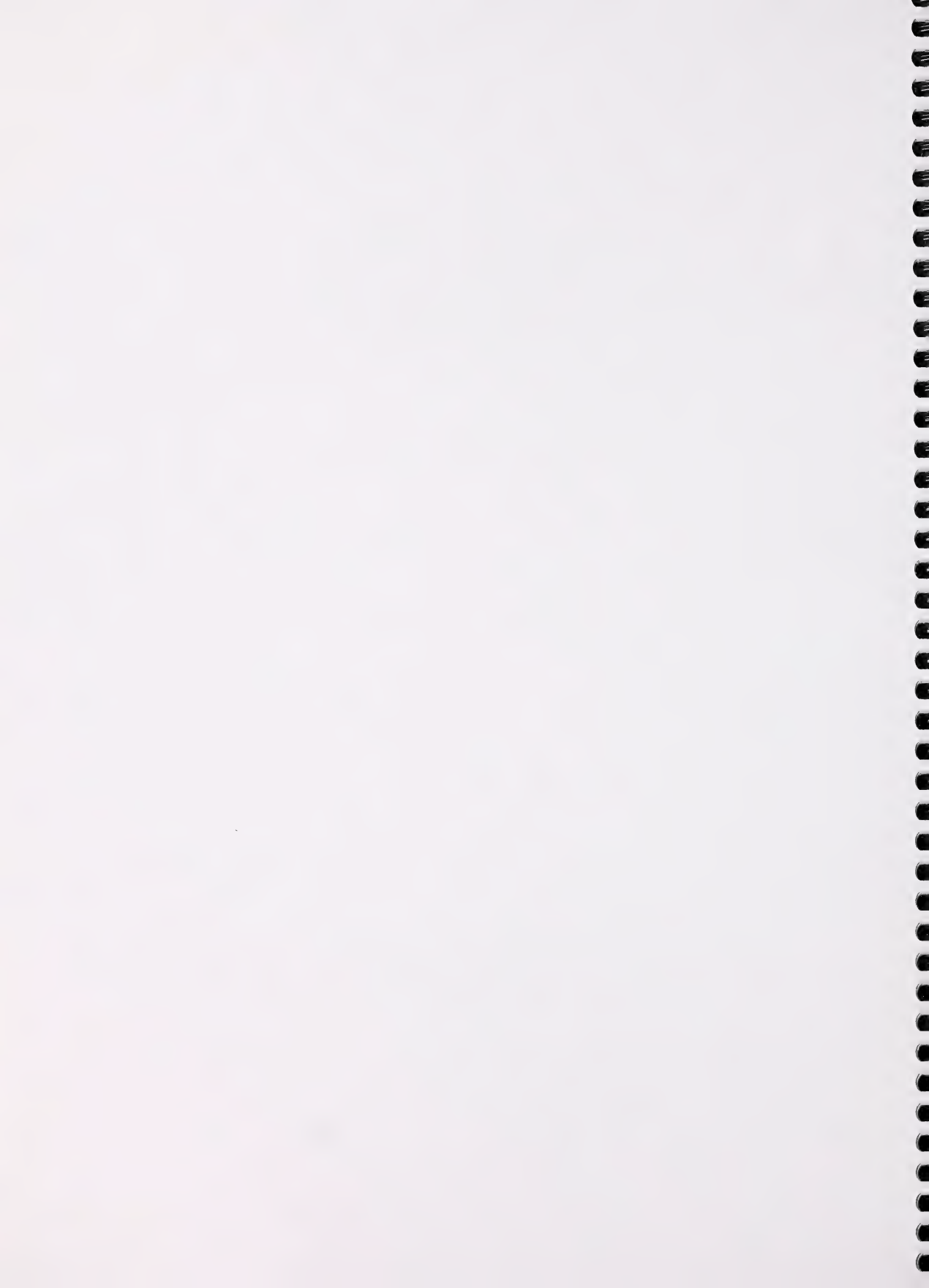
Alberta Municipal Affairs,
Municipal Services Branch

2005 Official Population List
(cities, towns & villages)

NOTES

Provincial population total and
AADAC service area totals include
municipal districts, counties,
reserves and other special areas;
counts for these areas are not listed
individually.

S.V. = Summer Village



APPENDIX 5

Summary of Indicators Alcohol, Other Drugs and Gambling

AADAC SERVICE AREAS (TABLES 5.1-5.5) REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES (TABLES 5.6-6.0)

Source

Various sources and reporting periods as referenced by individual tables are included in the body of this report.

Notes

- The following tables summarize the position of each of the 28 AADAC service areas and 9 RHAs relative to each other.
- Rankings correspond to those shown in each of the respective tables from this report. Summary tables are intended to enable the reader to see how a particular area ranked across all indicators. A rank of 1 indicates an area was highest on a calculated rate and a rank of 28 or 9 indicates an area was lowest.
- The fiscal or calendar years vary by indicator based on data availability at the time the report was released.

AADAC highlights

- In general, most service areas fluctuated in rankings across report indicators. However, the Canmore service area ranked near the bottom and the High Prairie and Slave Lake service areas ranked near the top across many indicators.

RHA highlights

- Considered individually, the Peace Country Health Authority stood out as being high and the Calgary and Capital Health Authorities as being low across most indicators. The remainder of the Health Authorities generally varied across report indicators.

TABLE 5.1: Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by AADAC service area
(rank: 1=highest to 28=lowest)

	TABLE 1 2004/05	TABLE 2 (AS OF JAN. 17/06)	TABLE 5 2004	TABLE 6 2004
Athabasca	17	7	15	18
Barrhead	26	18	25	20
Brooks	10	10	14	11
Calgary	12	26	27	26
Camrose	24	11	20	21
Canmore	1	1	10	9
Cold Lake	9	15	13	13
Crowsnest Pass	28	3	5	10
Drayton Valley	27	19	22	23
Drumheller	14	4	24	22
Edmonton	13	28	28	27
Edson	8	12	16	19
Fort McMurray	3	21	12	5
Grande Prairie	5	17	2	8
High Level	15	16	11	2
High Prairie	25	20	7	6
Hinton	2	2	9	14
Lac La Biche	18	27	4	3
Lethbridge	23	25	18	16
Medicine Hat	11	22	23	28
Peace River	19	14	17	12
Red Deer	16	23	21	17
Slave Lake	7	13	1	1
St. Paul	22	8	3	7
Stettler	20	5	19	24
Wainwright	4	9	26	25
Wetaskiwin	21	24	8	4
Whitecourt	6	6	6	15

Table 1—Per-person alcohol sales (wholesale \$)

Table 2—Rate of retail liquor licences (on- and off-sale)

Table 5—Rate of impaired driving and failure/refusal to provide breath sample

Table 6—Rate of disturbing the peace, non-sexual and sexual assault

TABLE 5.2 Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by AADAC service area
(rank: 1=highest to 28=lowest)

	TABLE 9 2004	TABLE 11 2004/05	TABLE 12 2004/05	TABLE 15 2004	TABLE 17 2004/05
Athabasca	9	14	7	15	21
Barrhead	28	24	27	7	5
Brooks	5	10	4	15	21
Calgary	23	26	24	18	15
Camrose	24	16	22	22	18
Canmore	11	9	16	12	23
Cold Lake	19	11	9	24	4
Crowsnest Pass	2	6	8	17	18
Drayton Valley	21	22	28	9	11
Drumheller	10	15	15	5	1
Edmonton	27	27	25	13	8
Edson	8	28	23	22	10
Fort McMurray	22	20	19	27	2
Grande Prairie	16	12	11	24	17
High Level	7	1	1	26	16
High Prairie	1	3	5	10	13
Hinton	25	21	26	8	23
Lac La Biche	13	7	10	6	25
Lethbridge	20	19	18	2	13
Medicine Hat	14	13	20	10	8
Peace River	18	8	11	4	6
Red Deer	16	17	13	13	18
Slave Lake	4	5	3	20	20
St. Paul	3	4	6	3	12
Stettler	26	23	21	20	21
Wainwright	12	24	14	18	24
Wetaskiwin	15	2	2	1	7
Whitecourt	6	18	17	28	3

Table 9—Rate of alcohol-involved injury and fatality collisions

Table 11—Rate of alcohol-related morbidity (psychosis, dependence, harmful use, toxic effects)

Table 12—Rate of alcohol-related morbidity (liver disease and other diagnoses)

Table 15—Rate of alcohol-related mortality

Table 17—Rate of alcohol-related 1-866 Help Line calls

TABLE 5.3: Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by AADAC service area
(rank: 1=highest to 28=lowest)

	TABLE 19 2004	TABLE 21 2004/05	TABLE 23 2004	TABLE 25 2004/05	TABLE 27 2005
Athabasca	1	16	24	14	12
Barrhead	15	19	14	5	14
Brooks	12	13	21	11	4
Calgary	24	26	13	12	22
Camrose	8	14	16	27	19
Canmore	10	11	3	25	5
Cold Lake	22	6	23	20	26
Crowsnest Pass	14	8	18	21	1
Drayton Valley	17	28	8	7	20
Drumheller	18	24	2	25	17
Edmonton	26	25	10	3	11
Edson	9	18	16	2	10
Fort McMurray	2	23	21	4	24
Grande Prairie	6	9	15	22	8
High Level	7	4	5	24	28
High Prairie	5	3	5	1	9
Hinton	3	22	16	15	7
Lac La Biche	16	5	3	8	26
Lethbridge	21	17	11	13	3
Medicine Hat	25	15	19	16	13
Peace River	13	21	24	19	18
Red Deer	19	10	8	17	6
Slave Lake	11	1	24	17	15
St. Paul	23	7	11	9	27
Stettler	28	19	19	28	16
Wainwright	27	27	16	23	23
Wetaskiwin	20	2	7	10	20
Whitecourt	4	12	1	6	2

Table 19—Rate of cannabis and other drug offences

Table 21—Rate of drug-related morbidity (psychosis, dependence, harmful use, toxic effects, other diagnoses)

Table 23—Rate of drug-related mortality

Table 25—Rate of drug-related 1-866 Help Line calls

Table 27—Rate of prescriptions dispensed for drugs monitored by the TPP

TABLE 5.4: Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by AADAC service area
(rank: 1=highest to 28=lowest)

	TABLE 29 2004/05	TABLE 30 2004/05	TABLE 31 2004/05	TABLE 35 2004/05
Athabasca	27	5	13	24
Barrhead	24	15	21	6
Brooks	22	16	5	2
Calgary	10	21	25	13
Camrose	19	24	19	11
Canmore	26	28	27	26
Cold Lake	5	12	12	3
Crowsnest Pass	13	14	8	21
Drayton Valley	20	22	11	4
Drumheller	28	25	17	20
Edmonton	7	10	24	6
Edson	12	2	4	19
Fort McMurray	6	1	28	5
Grande Prairie	8	11	15	17
High Level	16	19	2	27
High Prairie	2	17	20	21
Hinton	14	6	9	14
Lac La Biche	3	9	10	23
Lethbridge	15	26	26	11
Medicine Hat	9	18	16	6
Peace River	17	13	7	15
Red Deer	11	23	23	9
Slave Lake	18	3	3	18
St. Paul	4	7	14	15
Stettler	21	27	18	25
Wainwright	23	8	6	9
Wetaskiwin	1	20	22	8
Whitecourt	25	4	1	1

Table 29–Per-person charity gaming net sales

Table 30–Per-person lottery net sales

Table 31–Per-person video lottery terminal net sales

Table 35–Rate of gambling-related 1-866 Help Line calls

TABLE 5.5: Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by AADAC service area
(rank: 1=highest to 28=lowest)

	TABLE 37 2004/05	TABLE 38 2004/05	TABLE 39 2004/05	TABLE 43 2004	TABLE 45 2004/05	TABLE 2.1 2005/06	TABLE 3.6 2005
Athabasca	15	10	6	8	19	11	14
Barrhead	22	9	15	4	22	8	11
Brooks	26	14	10	15	28	5	13
Calgary	17	27	26	21	10	19	20
Camrose	14	19	9	9	25	20	26
Canmore	25	28	28	27	26	21	23
Cold Lake	8	21	20	19	24	13	7
Crowsnest Pass	12	3	2	2	18	21	22
Drayton Valley	27	22	21	22	19	27	15
Drumheller	13	16	7	3	6	12	19
Edmonton	24	24	23	18	1	24	16
Edson	3	25	19	13	27	6	12
Fort McMurray	11	26	27	28	14	7	5
Grande Prairie	1	18	17	24	3	1	9
High Level	15	8	24	25	15	26	2
High Prairie	10	1	1	11	9	23	4
Hinton	7	23	25	23	16	14	17
Lac La Biche	20	5	14	16	16	2	3
Lethbridge	17	20	16	6	8	17	24
Medicine Hat	6	17	5	12	5	15	25
Peace River	5	11	12	20	23	16	10
Red Deer	3	15	13	14	2	10	21
Slave Lake	28	4	18	26	4	3	1
St. Paul	2	2	3	1	21	9	8
Stettler	20	6	4	5	12	18	27
Wainwright	19	12	8	10	13	28	28
Wetaskiwin	9	7	11	6	11	25	18
Whitecourt	23	13	22	17	7	4	6

Table 37—Rate of tobacco-related morbidity (major cause)

Table 38—Rate of tobacco-related morbidity (contributing cause)

Table 39—Rate of tobacco-related morbidity (major risk factor)

Table 43—Rate of tobacco-related mortality

Table 45—Rate of tobacco-related 1-866 Help Line calls

Table 2.1—Rate of admissions to AADAC

Table 3.6—Rate of students who have dropped out of school

TABLE 5.6 Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by RHA (rank: 1=highest to 9=lowest)

	TABLE 3 2004/05	TABLE 4 (AS OF JAN. 17/06)	TABLE 7 2004	TABLE 8 2004
Aspen	3	1	2	3
Calgary	4	8	8	8
Capital	6	9	9	9
Chinook	9	7	4	4
David Thompson	8	5	5	5
East Central	7	2	7	7
Northern Lights	1	6	3	1
Palliser	5	3	6	6
Peace Country	2	4	1	2

Table 3—Per-person Alcohol sales (wholesale \$)

Table 4—Rate of retail liquor licences (on- and off-sale)

Table 7—Rate of impaired driving and failure/refusal to provide breath sample

Table 8—Rate of disturbing the peace, non-sexual and sexual assault

TABLE 5.7: Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by RHA (rank: 1=highest to 9=lowest)

	TABLE 10 2004	TABLE 13 2004/05	TABLE 14 2004/05	TABLE 16 2004	TABLE 18 2004/05
Aspen	3	3	5	5	4
Calgary	8	8	8	7	6
Capital	9	9	9	4	3
Chinook	6	6	6	1	5
David Thompson	4	5	3	2	1
East Central	7	7	7	5	9
Northern Lights	5	1	1	9	2
Palliser	1	4	4	2	7
Peace Country	2	2	2	8	8

Table 10—Rate of alcohol-involved injury and fatality collisions

Table 13—Rate of alcohol-related morbidity (psychosis, dependence, harmful use, toxic effects)

Table 14—Rate of alcohol-related morbidity (liver disease and other diagnoses)

Table 16—Rate of alcohol-related mortality

Table 18—Rate of alcohol-related 1-866 Help Line calls

TABLE 5.8: Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by RHA (rank: 1=highest to 9=lowest)

	TABLE 20 2004	TABLE 22 2004/05	TABLE 24 2004	TABLE 26 2004/05	TABLE 28 2005
Aspen	3	1	4	3	6
Calgary	8	8	3	5	8
Capital	9	9	2	1	4
Chinook	4	6	4	4	1
David Thompson	5	3	1	7	2
East Central	6	7	8	9	7
Northern Lights	1	5	6	2	9
Palliser	7	4	9	6	3
Peace Country	2	2	6	8	5

Table 20—Rate of cannabis and other drug offences

Table 22—Rate of drug-related morbidity (psychosis, dependence, harmful use, toxic effects, other diagnoses)

Table 24—Rate of drug-related mortality

Table 26—Rate of drug-related 1-866 Help Line calls

Table 28—Rate of prescriptions dispensed for drugs monitored by the TPP

TABLE 5.9: Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by RHA
(rank: 1 = highest to 9 = lowest)

	TABLE 32 2004/05	TABLE 33 2004/05	TABLE 34 2004/05	TABLE 36 2004/05
Aspen	6	2	1	3
Calgary	2	7	8	6
Capital	1	3	7	2
Chinook	8	9	6	6
David Thompson	3	8	5	3
East Central	7	5	3	5
Northern Lights	9	1	9	6
Palliser	4	6	2	1
Peace Country	5	4	4	9

Table 32—Per-person charity gaming net sales

Table 33—Per-person lottery net sales

Table 34—Per-person video lottery terminal net sales

Table 36—Rate of gambling-related 1-866 Help Line calls

TABLE 6.0: Rank order of selected indicators of substance use by RHA (rank: 1=highest to 9=lowest)

	TABLE 40 2004/05	TABLE 41 2004/05	TABLE 42 2004/05	TABLE 44 2004	TABLE 46 2004/05	TABLE 2.2 2005/06	TABLE 4.6 2005
Aspen	5	3	6	3	9	2	3
Calgary	7	9	8	7	5	7	5
Capital	9	8	7	6	1	8	4
Chinook	8	6	4	2	4	6	6
David Thompson	2	5	3	5	2	5	7
East Central	6	2	1	1	8	9	9
Northern Lights	4	7	9	9	7	3	1
Palliser	3	4	2	4	6	4	8
Peace Country	1	1	5	8	3	1	2

Table 40–Rate of tobacco-related morbidity (major cause)

Table 41–Rate of tobacco-related morbidity (contributing cause)

Table 42–Rate of tobacco-related morbidity (major risk factor)

Table 44–Rate of tobacco-related mortality

Table 46–Rate of tobacco-related 1-866 Help Line calls

Table 2.2–Rate of admissions to AADAC

Table 4.6–Rate of students who have dropped out of school

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA
Bibliothèque et Archives Canada



3 3286 53675790 5



For more information, contact your local AADAC office, call 1-866-33AADAC or visit our website at aadac.com